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British published Books are becoming daily scarcer, owing mainly to the enormous increase of Public Libraries, and the widely spreading demand for British published Books.

The following opinion was recently received from a correspondent:

"For some five or six and thirty years you have given us a service which in point of intelligence, accuracy and promptness could not in my opinion be surpassed. We have never had occasion to correct an account or to complain of delay. The various duties of collecting blue-books, pamphlets, continuations, rare books, etc., and of binding and shipping, have been discharged with energy, rapidity and economy. Your advice has always been sound and to our advantage; and I must add that my most cordial acknowledgment is due to you for your constant patience and courtesy in the tasks I have so often gratuitously imposed on you—in *re*, case of public men visiting London and requiring assistance and advice. Wishing you every success in your affairs."

EDW. G. ALLEN believes that he may fairly claim to be a Benefactor to the Intellectual Life of America, having, during his long experience of Library Work, shipped to American Libraries over two million Books, of course involving a very large expenditure of money.

1856—1902.

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

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A FAVORITE exordium of modern library oratory is the contrast between the librarian of an earlier day and his successor of the present time—the dreamy custodian of dusty tomes (to use the orator's favorite characterization), contrasted with the energetic practical distributor of books to the people. This contrast is drawn again, but from the opposite point of view, by Mr. Gerald Stanley Lee, in a recent *Book Buyer*. The modern librarian, says Mr. Lee, lacks the indefinable qualities of the real librarian. He is too businesslike, too worldly-minded; his attitude toward his books lacks sensibility; "he seems to have decided that his mind (any librarian's mind) is a kind of pneumatic tube or carrier system for shoving Immortals at people." Mr. Lee's indictment is amusing; and it has a basis of sound sense that library workers, in the present insistence on methods and machinery, are apt to lose sight of. It is true that the days of the old-fashioned librarian are past; mustiness, inconvenience, solitude, for each of which Mr. Lee makes whimsical plea, are no longer necessary library attributes, and happily so. But it is true also that we are prone nowadays to overvalue the mechanics of library administration. "Love of books" is one of the time-worn recommendations of the incompetent assistant; it is none the less a prime qualification of the best library service. As Mr. Putnam pointed out at Magnolia, order, system, apparatus are necessary to the operation of the modern library; but we should give heed that in securing these we retain and foster those characteristics of knowledge and love of books that distinguished the old-fashioned librarian.

WITHIN the last few weeks Great Britain has received a generous proportion of Mr. Carnegie's favorite "investments." Over a score of towns and cities in the United Kingdom have been offered sums ranging from ten thousand to sixty thousand dollars and over for library buildings. The numerous

gifts to the various London districts are especially notable, as evidence of Mr. Carnegie's desire to see branch library systems developed for the larger cities. As usual, the gifts are conditional upon a guarantee of proper maintenance of the library by the town—in many cases upon the acceptance of the Library Acts—and the furnishing of a site; and in several cases towns that have heretofore refused to avail themselves of the Acts have adopted them in the hope of, and before applying for, a Carnegie gift. The gifts so far reported, scattered as they are through England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales, are likely to have a marked influence upon general library development in Great Britain, especially in the direction of professional training for library work. One of the English library periodicals has already presented the need of organized instruction of the sort, and has urged that Mr. Carnegie's gifts to individual libraries might be supplemented and made more effective by "the endowment of librarianship," in the form of a central institute, where all library and bibliographical interests should be represented, where librarians should be given thorough technical training, and where information and material on library subjects should be preserved and distributed to the public. Organization on such a scale as this is somewhat theoretical; but it is evident that the large increase in modern and attractive library buildings which Mr. Carnegie's gifts ensure will create administrative needs that only some system of professional training can satisfy.

THERE has been evident within the last few years a decided strengthening of what was recently termed the "progressive wing" of the catalog world, and a corresponding reaction against some of the minutiae of sign and symbol that have set library practice apart from conventional usage. This was shown at the meeting of the Catalog Section at Magnolia, by the votes in favor of capitalizing German

nouns and the names of historical events and epochs, and by the discussion on capitalization in general. It is also to be observed in the advance edition of the new "A. L. A. rules," just issued by the Library of Congress for the A. L. A. Publishing Board's advisory committee. This revision of the A. L. A. rules of 1883 was begun in the spring of 1901, when the introduction of printed catalog cards through the Library of Congress made necessary more uniformity in type, cards, and form of entry. At the same time it was hoped through this revision to bring existing codes into more harmony and give the A. L. A. rules more practical authority than they had heretofore possessed—a hope that has been already partly fulfilled, as the fourth edition of Cutter's rules is in substantial agreement with the committee's code. In the meantime this advance edition of the revised rules is submitted for criticism and suggestions. Especially is consideration called to the proposed treatment of government publications and issues of academies, which is a marked departure from previous American practice, while in various minor points, such as the use of centimeters for size designation instead of the letter symbol, the omission of forenames not used by the author, and like examples, the tendency toward a broader standpoint is apparent. Catalogers should give close attention to this revised code, and the comments and criticisms asked by the committee should be promptly forthcoming.

Communications.

ERRATA IN GIFTS AND BEQUESTS REPORT.

THE statement in the "Report on gifts and bequests" in the Proceedings of the American Library Association, 1902, p. 118, regarding gifts to Havana, is not wholly accurate. It there states that the sum of \$250,000 has been offered to the Public Library of Havana for the erection of a library building, and that the library has also received the gift of over 3000 volumes, only 300 of which are bound, from Señor Figarola-Cañeda. It is true that Mr. Carnegie has offered to the town council of Havana \$250,000 for a public library building. Regarding the gift of volumes, this was made not to the future Public Library, but to the National Library, established under my direction in Havana in October, 1901.

D. FIGAROLA-CAÑEDA, *Director*.

BIBLIOTECA NACIONAL,
Havana, Cuba.

COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

THROUGH an oversight the names of the members of the committee on an American bibliographical society were not printed in the proceedings of the Magnolia meeting of the Bibliographical Society of Chicago. The following gentlemen were appointed: Mr. John Thomson, Philadelphia, chairman; Mr. Wilberforce Eames, New York; Mr. William C. Lane, Cambridge.

AKSEL G. S. JOSEPHSON,
Chairman of Magnolia Meeting, Bibliographical Society of Chicago.

THE HIGHER MATHEMATICS OF BOOK EVALUATION.

BEFORE we reach satisfactory methods in library statistics and in book evaluation, some units of measurement will be necessary: our electric light current is charged by "watt-hours," the product of the number of watts by the hours they are used. The complete and accurate measurement of the effect of a book would require some such unit as "book-quality x hours-reading x reader's-condition"; each factor being compound as well, e.g., "reader's-condition" being affected by his receptivity at the time of reading, the usual permanence of his impressions, and the wisdom with which he acts on them. This is, of course, too delicate a test to be practicable. But such a unit as "hours-enjoyment" can be applied in comparing various classes of books; "enjoyment" being used for the reader's state of mind while reading, whether he agrees or disagrees. If "Hohenzollern" requires three hours for reading, its effectiveness is three "hours-enjoyment"; if "Making of an American" requires 15 hours, 15 "hours-enjoyment" is its value. And the same person reading both would have received pleasure in the ratio of 3 to 15; so that the effectiveness on this simple comparison of "Making of an American" is five times as great as that of "Hohenzollern," and the library has a right to reckon on this basis the work it has done in circulating these books an equal number of times. The "hours-enjoyment" of books can be accurately determined once for all by persons reading with "average" rapidity, and its value as a measure lies largely in its exactness and its independence of personal opinion. To be sure it takes no account of the intrinsic worth of a book's contents, nor of the fact that all of a book may not be read. But the library now regretfully reporting a circulation of 3000 volumes of fiction and 1000 non-fiction would more truly express its work if, on a basis of three "hours-enjoyment" to a novel and of 15 to a volume of non-fiction, it declared it had given 3 x 3000 or 9000 "hours-enjoyment" fiction and 15 x 1000 or 15,000 "hours-enjoyment" non-fiction.

DREW B. HALL.

THE MILLICENT LIBRARY,
Fairhaven, Mass.

THE VEXED QUESTION OF PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.*

By ADELAIDE R. HASSE, *Chief of Document Department of New York Public Library.*

THE attitude of the average librarian to-day toward documents is that of the paleontologist toward structural zoology before the study of constructive anatomy had been formulated. The peculiarity of documents, as books, is their relation one to another. When we lose sight of this, and hold in one hand only a minute fragment of a complex whole, is it to be wondered at that we encounter puzzling obstacles?

There are then two alternatives for the librarian facing the question of public documents: either he must become a student of the constructive anatomy of civic administration, or he must be content to confine his use of documents, as fragments, to an exhibition of them, together with his other specimens of literature on his cabinet shelves. Perhaps if, when speaking of public documents, we did not lose sight so absolutely of the fact that documents are but an expression of government, government in the abstract (not only of the United States government) we might be in a position more readily to appreciate their significance. If we but remembered that organized governments such as ours is to-day have existed since 1789, and that the history of unorganized governments follows closely the inception of the family as a unit of society, and that so soon thereafter as the art of preserving records by graphic means was invented public documents came into existence, we would have an inkling of the immensity of the study of public documents. A royal Assyrian proclamation, inscribed on stone, is a public document; a Chinese ordinance passed thousands of years ago, providing for the establishment of the vast system of public roads of that country, is a public document; a Phœnician wax tablet containing a tariff schedule is a public document; Egyptian hieroglyphics decorating the walls of a tomb and representing a regal decree, make in effect, a public document.

Public documents exist wherever civic organization has taken place in a civilization

having invented the art of graphic expression. As in the nomenclature of other social developments so we have in that of public documents a reminder of their evolution. Notable are the Pipe Rolls of Great Britain, about the true origin of which there is a division of opinion, it being maintained on the one hand that these early finance reports were so called because the accounts on rolls, like a pipe or conduit, encompassed the income and outgo of the country's wealth; and on the other hand it is maintained that they received the name because the accounts were inscribed on huge skins and were rolled up when not in use, representing in contour a pipe. In France the repository of government archives is to-day called *Trésor des Chartes*, which was the name the old kings who lived in the saddle gave to the name of the coffer holding the royal seal and official parchments, and which they carried about with them from battle to battle.

Without going beyond the era of organic administration beginning in 1789, the complexity of the construction of the study of public documents may be illustrated by the fact that there are in existence to-day 35 federal publishing bodies other than that of the United States, and that there are 743 local publishing bodies other than the half hundred American commonwealths, and that there are 153 colonial publishing bodies other than the three American colonies, and of municipal publishing bodies the name is legion. The extent of the study may be further illustrated by the statement that each one of these 36 federal bodies, and 743 local bodies operates upon practically the same political basis. They are all agreed as to an organic act, which they publish and call a constitution, the result of the study of which is called constitutional history; they all promulgate certain decisions for the public welfare which they call laws, the result of the study of which is called the study of comparative legislation; they are all conducted by a representative body, the result of the study of whose deliberations is called parlia-

*Report of address, delivered at Western Library meeting, Madison, Wis., Aug. 28, 1902.

mentary history; to administer the provisions of the representative body, each of these 36 federal, 793 local and 156 colonial governments has instituted a relatively similar system of executive offices, the result of the study of which is called comparative administrative law.

A collection of public documents may then be either legal, and contain only the laws of one or more governments; or it may be parliamentary, and contain only the parliamentary proceedings of one or more governments; or it may be administrative, and contain only the executive reports of the administrative departments of one or more governments. An administrative collection again may be further subdivided, for it may be the purpose of its promoters to collect particularly the literature on the economic interests of the civic administration, or on the prudential interests, or on the protective interests. So there may be libraries which are strong in financial and commercial reports of one or more governments, libraries which are strong in insurance reports, education reports, reports on penal institutions of one or more governments, or libraries which are strong in reports on the preservation of public health, the improvement of public comfort, by the maintenance of good roads, good lighting, perfect sanitation, the establishment of parks, etc., of one or more governments. Looking then at the question of public documents as it is related to the work of the American librarian, I may be permitted here to make again the statement that we will continue to experience difficulty in the handling of these documents so long as our conception of their relation to government in general and the relation of any one document to the organization of the country publishing that document is not clear. It is not at all necessary, though it would be well, that we have an intimate knowledge of the intricacies of political administration; but a general understanding of the fundamental principles is necessary in order to handle documents satisfactorily.

The universal comment of librarians concerning documents is, "Here we have all this valuable material stowed away and no one can get at it. Every day brings us more. Of course, not knowing what it is, we must keep all that comes until we do find out what it is." And then the greatness and the glory of the

country is expiated upon, because it overwhelms a great and glorious people with a wealth of valuable literature. Of course, theoretically, it is very fine to know that our country is so generous in the distribution of valuable literature that there is not a school child in the land that can not have a Smithsonian report so that it may write a composition on Indian mounds, etc. The idea of the provision for the diffusion of knowledge among its people by a government is very beautiful, but in this particular instance, viz.: the means by which this diffusion is brought about, there is quite another side to the question. Imagine a storehouse of books at the present moment more than twice as large as the Wisconsin Historical Society's library, and being augmented at the ratio of 500 per cent. every six years, imagine such a collection broken up every year among 540 libraries, which have in the first place no voice whether to take or leave, in the second place no choice whatever in what to take or leave, and which in the third place are left to defray the entire expense of the preparation, storing and care of this unsolicited gift, and you have a general picture of a government depository. At the time of the 56th congressional session, the distribution to depository libraries equalled 527 volumes a year to a library, eating up on an average 96 feet of shelving. The larger proportion of depository libraries are libraries of between 10,000 and 25,000 volumes, a large per cent. are libraries of under 5000 volumes, sacrificing 96 feet of shelving a congress. Has it ever occurred to a librarian of a library of say 2000 volumes, supported by the town say at \$900 or \$1000 a year, to question the propriety of asking the town to pay storage and service for material practically useless to that library? Has the solution never suggested itself to you? Have you never thought that if you were given the option of selection, the effect desired might be attained with far greater satisfaction? Have you ever questioned the reason of the present system of maintaining federal warehouses at local expense? Is the compensation for you adequate? All these are pertinent questions to the librarian and they touch the very heart and core of the so-called "vexed question."

To keep alive the present system of distribution the American government maintains to-day the largest printing plant in the world,

costing \$5,300,000 a year, the salaries alone amounting to \$3,750,000. The annual report of the Secretary of Agriculture for 1900 alone cost \$148,000; 1600 people were employed at a total amount of \$91,200; 500,000 copies were printed, requiring 3700 reams of 100-lb. book paper 24 x 38 inches; 590,000 lbs. of 48-lb. machine finish paper, 24 x 38 inches; 20 bbls. of flour, 3500 lbs. of glue, and 700 pkgs. of gold leaf, costing \$4000.*

The point is, does this enormous amount of money expended on the part of the federal government, together with the expenditure for maintenance on the part of the local warehouses, represent in all cases an expenditure wisely directed? You are not interested in documents, you are interested in a quantity of material foisted upon you, which is in your way, which you hesitate to return to its donor, about the unquenchable source of which you are very much in the dark, and it is your complacency in permitting yourself to remain in the dark on this subject that has now resulted in the "vexed question of public documents." It is not the large libraries, with facilities, who are perplexed by the problem, but it is the small library, with limited means, to whom this indiscriminate continuous donation is an embarrassment. The incongruity of a system that will give to a library of 300,000 volumes the same service that it gives to a library of 3000 volumes, is too evident to be commented upon. There is no relief for you unless you take the initiative step to bring about a change in the law which provides for uniform distribution based upon proportional representation. So long as you are content to rest under the operation of this law, so long will you continue to have with you the vexed question of public documents. There is no solution possible so long as the law as it stands to-day continues in operation. The service to libraries should be graded, suitable to the demands of the library, and should be based upon geographic relation. You observe I do not so much advocate retrenched distribution as rational distribution.

Second only to the method of distribution in causing annoyance to libraries is the method of "make up." As you know, the government issues two editions of its publications, the congressional or sheep, and the de-

partment, or cloth edition. Both of these editions are on the list sent to depositories, and this duplication embarrasses you with the question of whether to keep both editions intact, and so maintain a duplicate set of little used material, or whether to keep only one, and if only one, which one? This is not a question which ought to come to you at all. In only the rarest of cases are you called upon to re-adjust a set of private publications to meet conveniences of shelving. Documents, if issued for use by libraries, should be issued in customary library editions, and should be held subject to the demand of a library. I have not decided in my own mind whether I would recommend the abstraction from the sheep set of all reports other than committee reports, memorials, petitions, etc., printing them in a bureau edition, and distributing them in this form to depositories, and reserving the collected committee and other reports from general distribution, or whether it were best to continue a congressional edition as it is made up to-day, and depositing this in eight or ten of the largest libraries over the country, and distributing only the department and bureau reports to libraries. As a rule it is not the department and bureau reports that are as much in demand in a library where documents are used at all, as it is the current committee reports upon questions being now discussed in Congress. These it is which the college library and the larger public libraries want as soon as they can get them, and these it is which are served to them at the largest possible interval of time.

It is then the present system of distribution and the present system of makeup which are the real causes of your difficulty in handling public documents. If you are seriously inconvenienced, and find that you are struggling under a burden unjustly imposed upon you, you have several alternatives. You may ask to be relieved of all depository designation. In this case you would need to make application to your representative for all documents of which you want a copy, and you would stand a reasonably certain chance of getting as much as would be good for you; or, you might address a remonstrance against the imposition to your representative, asking him to refer it to the proper committee. It is possible that a number of such remonstrances might bring about a hearing on the question

*Annual report of Public Printer, 1900.

before the committee, and the determination of the distribution revert to the librarian. The Superintendent of Documents has at present no authority to issue documents to libraries generally on selection, and under the code you must take all or nothing. The matter of cataloging public documents, were the distribution and makeup simplified, would be attended with no more difficulty than is the cataloging of any corporation publication.

I do not want to give you the impression that I undervalue or underappreciate the public documents, for I do not. As a class of books, it is by far the most important in existence. Public documents are the record of the birth of history. All over the world for hundreds of years countries have been occupied in keeping these birth records, and a library of to-day having the means to collect a set of these birth records, would raise a monument more magnificent than any ever erected. Bancroft has very eloquently expressed himself on this subject when he says: "It is because God is visible in history that its office is the noblest except that of the poet. . . . To him and to him alone history yields in dignity; for she not only watches the great encounters of life, but recalls what had vanished, and partaking of a bliss like that of creating, restores it to animate being. . . . But history, as she reclines in the lap of eternity, sees the mind of humanity itself engaged in formative efforts, promulgating laws, organizing commonwealths, constructing sciences. . . . Of all pursuits that require analysis, history therefore stands first."* But a public document in general, as reflecting this conception of history, and public documents as seen only from the point of view of the incumbent of a United States government depository, are two very different points of view. The mere fact that among American librarians the term "public documents" has come to signify only the publications of the United States federal government, is a commentary on the enormity of the incubus. For if you really regarded public documents as having the great value which you only assume they have, we would have a larger number of perfect files of state documents and of city

documents. A public document does not lose historic value merely because it is not a public document of the United States federal government, and I venture to say that those public libraries, supported by public taxation, which have a file of the town documents, or even an attempt at a record of what constitutes such a file, is a very small number indeed.

If you are really interested in public documents, in your library, and in your community, there is no one piece of work you could do which would further these interests more than the beginning at once of the collection of a file of your town documents. There is in a city no more appropriate place than its public library for such a collection, and no more worthy work for a public librarian to have accomplished than to be able to bequeath to a city a record of its official life. City officers are as a general thing very negligent about preserving files of office reports, but by constant inquiry at the city offices, rummaging in second-hand shops, dunning newspaper offices, making friends with the old inhabitants, you will set to work mysterious forces which presently will materialize in the beginnings of a collection of city documents. There are public library trustees who are prone to frown at first upon such a suggestion, but who, when the collection has been enriched by a gift or two, may be detected, when touring a visiting trustee over the library, saying to him, "Yes, and this little book belonged to Mr. Blank, who has lived here thirty years and who found it among his father's books. No one else here seems to remember having seen a copy. It is an original print of the first town charter. You see we have had it specially bound. Our librarian is much interested in developing this collection."

There is another argument in favor of local collection. It has been said that the study of comparative constitutional history has been superseded by the study of comparative administration. The staple sources, outside of fugitive pamphlets, are the newspapers and the documents. Newspapers are now being pretty generally preserved, and if a plea for documents can be made sufficiently convincing and repeated with sufficient frequency, it may be that librarians will in time come to realize the importance of collecting local material.

* Oration delivered at the semi-centennial celebration of the founding of the New York Historical Society, Nov. 20, 1854.

BOOK-INDEXES.

BY FLORENCE CRAGG, *New York Public Library.*

THERE are few writers on the subject of index-making, but to those who have written I am indebted for a few valuable suggestions which I have adopted in my own system of indexing. In order to set forth this plan clearly, I have thought it proper to state some different ideas of indexing and then to refer briefly to the system which might with advantage be accepted by all indexers of books, a system based on long experience of detailed and technical work.

Broadly used the word index means a guide, anything that shows or directs in any way, such as the arm of a guide post or the hand of a clock; applied to literature it may generally be understood to mean a list of entries representing more or less subject-matter, and indicating where it is to be found. To many minds this statement presents very varied ideas, to the librarian it means very generally the catalog, to the careless reader the table of contents of a book, to many others it represents a syllabus, digest, summary, register, calendar. These are all indexes, because in their own proper way they are guides to information, and this is the one purpose of an index. But the form of index to be considered here is that known as a book-index. This may be defined as an analysis of the topics, names of persons, places, etc., treated of or mentioned in a book or series of books, pointing out their exact position in the volume. In this form indexing is the art of discerning and expressing in brief the important point or points of a subject, and presenting these under representative headings arranged in alphabetical order.

The value of indexes was recognized in the earliest days, and it is extraordinary that the indexes of the present are so much on the level of those made centuries ago. It is surprising, too, in these days of eagerness and hurry, that publishers do not realize the value of really good indexes to the books they publish; many books are published without any indexes whatever, and the rest are apt to have indexes so defective that they mar the books entirely. It is, however, certain that the demand for indexes is in some small

degree increasing, and not only so, but there is call for better work.

An indexer has need of many high qualifications to enable him to thoroughly handle the work before him. He must first of all be accurate, not only in matters of figures, but in the true representation of the subject matter of the text; he must possess powers of analyzing, having strength of will to reject many a point that by an amateur would be inserted in the index; he must also be able to place his entries under the most likely headings and to look at the subject in hand from all points of view and eccentricities of mind. These qualities are developed in an indexer only by long perseverance in the practice of indexing.

The indexer of to-day has the task and the opportunity of transforming a system that has remained in rudimentary stage during years of progression. It is his duty to fight unflinchingly against many details in this method and endeavor to make his productions what they should ever be—clear, ready-of-reference, informing guides.

An index should be made throughout by one person, for indexing is an undertaking in which a number of persons cannot really and effectively work together. A good index may be produced by this method, but many can never acquire the thoroughness of one who has descended through all its grades and must therefore have a practical knowledge of each. It is almost essential to the uniformity of the index that the compiler of an index shall arrange and edit the same; many indexes in London are compiled in offices where there are many workers, each taking a part, but this method involves greater labor, and I am sure does not produce the best results. As to the question of detail in an index, this depends very largely on the matter in hand; for instance, in the indexing of a daily newspaper and a set of old historic records, there are two entirely different ends in view; in the first every detail of present day interest must be noted and every subject developed to its fullest extent; in the second we have events from which the spirit of great de-

tailed interest has passed; here one must have the faculty of rejecting from the index what is ephemeral while not missing a single point worthy of indexing. This distinction was brought very forcibly to my mind a few years ago when I had the privilege of assisting in compiling the index to the current debates of the British Parliament, and, at the same time, the index to the "Hansard debates" from the time of William IV. to about 1890; in the current debates to provide for the demands of the Members of Parliament, a very strict analysis was necessary, while in the "Hansard debates" the index, though indeed detailed, was not so minute.

Indexing is divided into three distinct parts—the first, compilation; the second, sorting and editing; the third, publication. Compilation is the most important part of the work, and means the actual making of the entries representing the analysis of the text. In starting out to index a book it is well to get a general knowledge of the whole before making a single entry; this is important as affecting the final uniformity of the index and also makes the task easier throughout to the compiler. Having obtained this knowledge of the whole the next step is to treat the matter in detail considering the subject in hand from all points of view and taking out the headings that are likely to be uppermost in the mind of the seeker. An index should never oblige a reader to stop and think under what heading the compiler has been led to register an entry, but every catchword in the text or out of it that in any way represents the subject or part of it must be taken out. Brevity is certainly a thing to be studied, but only after adequate representation has been made. The second thing to be done is to make entries of these headings, for no heading must ever be inserted without some word explaining the cause thereof; the details of the subject must be represented in such words as will convey the exact meaning of the text; it is a part of the work which needs great care and thought, in setting forth the subject in brief and suggestive form, bearing in mind that the index is only the key and not the actual information. There are many errors often made at this stage of the work resulting in total misrepresentation of the text, thus the oft-quoted instance—"Mr. Justice

Best said that he had a great mind to commit the man for trial," was indexed as "Best, Mr. Justice, his great mind."

The second stage, that of sorting and editing, is of great importance, as no index will be satisfactory, however well compiled, unless it be well arranged; first of all the cards must be sorted and then the whole revised, the indexer comparing critically the entries and different headings with a view to noting agreements or discrepancies. Alphabetical order has superseded the other forms of arrangements, but the numerical or book order of subdivision (or subheadings as properly termed), is still an evil that needs remedying, alphabetical order being the substitute for the present system. By commencing each subheading on a new line, the required detail among perhaps many others is found at once.

Old System.

Census, speeches on ninth, 443; bill for taking, 450; literature of, 461; defects in old system, 479; remedies, 490; mortality schedules, 500; ninth census completed, 619; social statistics, 625; amendt. of system, 714.

New System.

Census:
Bill for taking, 450.
Defective system, amendt., 479, 490, 714.
Literature of, 461.
Mortality schedules, 500.
Ninth census:
Completion, 619.
Speeches on, 443.
Social statistics, 625.

The publication stage is also of importance, as it includes the final revision of the index and the proof-correcting, particularly noting details of indention and continued headings peculiar to the proof of an index. Headings should be printed in marked type, indention being used as a sign of repetition of the same heading in preference to all other forms. Wheatley says: "There are few points in which a printer is more likely to go wrong than in the use of this repetition sign; it must only be used for headings exactly similar, the heading being repeated when the second entry differs from the first. Many indexes are full of the most perplexing instances of this detail, leading to great absurdities."

The following are capital illustrations of this error:

Fish, Hamilton.
—Stewing.
Lead, casting.
—Kindly Light.
United agency.
—States.
—Tube Company.

Needless to say that only a very slight mention has been made of the multifarious details contained in index-making, details of cross-referencing, condensation, arrangement, etc., details full of importance and interest to the ardent indexer, the strict attention to which decides finally the value of the index.

A lengthy account of these details would perchance be out of place here, and indeed their value is not evident to the one who merely reads of them, but—though often unconsciously—to those who use them, and to those who after careful study and perseverance are made perfect in the art of indexing.

SOME FADS AND FALLACIES IN LIBRARY WORK.*

By ELLA F. CORWIN, *State Library, Lansing, Mich.*

TRAINED workers have done much for libraries, and the time has come when no others can hope to gain recognition where the best work is required. It should hardly be necessary to explain that by trained workers, I do not mean only those who have received their training in a library school, but also include those who have acquired their training, step by step, in a well-managed, thoroughly organized library, than which training there is no better. There is always danger, however, of going to extremes in the details of any work, and in the technicalities of library work this danger is hard to be avoided.

Perhaps nothing has done more toward bringing library work near to the dignity of a science than the admirable systems of cataloging and classifying now found in all up-to-date libraries. These represent the attempt to make available all of the resources of a library and to allow no material, even though it may seem insignificant, to be lost.

A carefully trained, intelligent cataloger, by the application of recognized rules, the help of the carefully worked-out system of subject headings, cross references, and analytics, may and does make the treasures of the library accessible to users to a surprising and delightful extent. And at the present stage of library development a general catalog is more useful on cards than it is in printed form. But the card catalog is too frequently a vehicle for the fads and fallacies of the cataloging extremist.

The advanced cataloger in her over-zeal

is not satisfied with bringing into orderly and systematic grouping the contents of the library, but with the use of cards she adopts the plan of designating subjects by color schemes, and there are introduced into the catalog blue, buff, yellow and green cards in bewildering variety. Nor does she stop here; dots and spaces begin to have significance, and colored inks are brought into play. A mistake of two dots on top of each other when they should be side by side may have the awful result of transforming Jane into John, and woe to the uninitiated if he commit the blunder of calling a man an editor at a distance of one-half a centimeter instead of a whole one.

I have seen catalogs made by persons who seemed to have a dim idea of the system to be used, but who had completely lost sight of what the system was for, the result being a mere jumble of meaningless cards, representing useless effort and waste of time to such an extent as to be pitiful.

A thorough-going dictionary card catalog, especially for a good-sized library, must necessarily seem to the casual user a thing fearfully and wonderfully made. It behooves us, then, to put more meaning into it, and, if possible, to make it what we claim it is—a guide, or better, a key to the resources of the library, simple enough to be used by a child and complete enough to satisfy the most thorough student.

I have heard a seeming seeker after signs and symbols in the library field dubbed a "semi-colon woman," and the term seems to me a happy one. We need in our profession, perhaps more than in any other, people with

* Part of a paper read before the Michigan Library Association.

a broad outlook and a grasp on the larger meanings of the work. There should be no place for any others.

What is true of this tendency in cataloging is also true in classifying. No branch of library organization seems to give the worker more satisfaction than to see books of a kind, no matter how badly scattered, marshalled into line, side by side, by use of the Decimal Classification worked out by Mr. Dewey. But it would seem that even Mr. Dewey has gone classification mad when we try to work out his scheme for biography as given in the latest edition of the Decimal Classification. To be sure, it has the advantage that you are pretty sure to know the book thoroughly by the time you have found out where it belongs, and have learned, for instance, that the simple little story of a pious and earnest missionary named Smith cannot be allowed a quiet place with the other Smiths, but must be searched through to find whether he was a Methodist or Baptist, or of some other faith. After you have placed him satisfactorily, with the Presbyterians, perhaps, and he is carefully numbered 922.5, then you must begin all over again and find out whether he is English or Irish or American or what-not; and when your unassuming missionary is finally classified and put on the shelves, he will bear a legend something like this: 922.5415 S 642—and I have no doubt that if the shades of the departed are inspecting your work from the regions where they are at peace, this particular shade feels more important now than he ever did in the body.

Another feature which has received great attention in the discussion of library methods and which I think can safely be called a fad, is the picture bulletin. I thoroughly believe in the use of bulletins, and appreciate the great help and benefit they are to the patrons of a library, having found them an essential feature in my own work. But their improvement should be in the way of more intelligent and helpful work and not in an effort to attract attention after the manner of—and sometimes in not much better taste than—posters on bill boards.

The librarian of a small library which I once visited had heard a great deal at a recent library convention about pictures and picture bulletins, and being anxious to show

her patrons how she had profited by her attendance at the convention, had introduced with great pride into her library pictures of recent lecturers, singers, actors and others who had come or were to come to the town. The library looked like a barber shop in consequence.

In another library where picture bulletins are a special fad, I was so impressed with the beauty of the bulletins (and they *were* beautiful) that I completely forgot to look at the list of books, and after I had left the library could not tell one named on the list, which was much to my discredit, I admit, but I do not believe the object of the bulletin was in the least enhanced by the pictures. It is true that good pictures are educational, and when judiciously used in a library—or any where else—make for culture. But unfortunately all good librarians are not always good art critics, and in some libraries, especially children's rooms, the dignity and beauty of the surroundings are spoiled by atrocities of pictures, colored and otherwise, which have been collected and arranged by the librarian at infinite pains with most direful and inartistic effect.

I would eliminate from a library everything which detracts from the dignity of the place, everything which in the slightest degree makes one, child or adult, forget that it is a place of study, a place to gain knowledge and to add culture, which should have an atmosphere all its own. I would make the room attractive because of its beauty and dignity, the courtesy of the librarian and the staff and their genuine whole-souled desire to bring to the patrons in the easiest way all the stores it contains. If this is done it will not be necessary to give luncheons in your reading-room, nor to advertise by means of pictures or signs, nor to use any undignified device to make your library popular.

In these short notes I have only tried to point out a few of the dangers in our profession. We hear so much discussion and receive so much literature on the technicalities of the work that there is danger of our getting to a point where we shall come to think that a library exists only for the purpose of classifying and cataloging it.

Mere technicalities of library work are not hard to acquire, but a knowledge as to the best use of a library is hard to acquire, and

it is to this end that our best energy should be directed.

A librarian may have the best technical training it is possible to give, he may know all the mysteries of all the signs and symbols of the work, he may be well versed in the latest fads regarding pictures and travelling libraries, but let him be wanting in courtesy, sympathy, modesty, broadmindedness or good judgment, and he is an inevitable failure. On the other hand, let him possess these qualifications, and he will be quite sure to acquire what is needful of the others and make the best kind of a success of his work.

LIBRARY BUILDINGS IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE *American Architect and Building News* has printed an article of much interest to librarians in Sidney K. Greenslade's extended review of "Libraries in the United States." Mr. Greenslade's paper was prepared for the Royal Institute of British Architects, was read at the meeting of March 17, 1902, and was later printed in the *Journal* of the society. It is printed in serial form in the *American Architect*, the first instalment appearing in the issue of July 19, and the final one in the number for August 30. Mr. Greenslade does not discuss the subject in general terms, but describes carefully, though briefly, representative American buildings covering (1) Reference libraries; (2) University libraries; (3) Town libraries (in three divisions); (4) Branch libraries; (5) Small libraries. Among the buildings described are the Library of Congress, the New York Public Library, Wisconsin State Historical Society, Columbia University, University of Pennsylvania, New York University, the public libraries of Boston, Newark, Providence, Utica, Pawtucket, Fall River, Duluth, Tacoma, and the Carnegie libraries of Atlanta, Ga., Davenport, Ia., and East Orange, N. J. The New York Public Library is regarded as "perhaps the most important library now being erected in the States." The scheme adopted for it has resulted in "a magnificent working plan," and it is added, "If for one moment the plan of this library is compared with that of Boston it will be easily seen how rapidly the science of the librarian has developed. Of course, the Boston library was fine for its time. Both architects and librarian had to learn what was wanted. The library building as understood now in the United States, planned for its open shelf rooms, rooms arranged for free access to stack, and well-fitted children's rooms, is quite a recent development, and each year progress is made towards the creation of the ideal plan. Altogether," Mr. Greenslade says, "this seems nearly as per-

fect a library as is possible. The magnificent group of reading-rooms in the top floor, with the huge stack below; the very fine approach to these rooms from the main stairways from the first to the main floor, so arranged as not to return on themselves; the position of lending delivery-room—its very direct connection with the street and the stack, and its isolation; the arrangement of the children's room and periodical-room, with their separate stacks and easy access from the main entrance; the possibility of future extension of both main reading-room and stack-room easily assured without interfering with existing arrangements—are among the very many features that call for particular comment."

Among the other buildings described, the Boston Public Library, though recognized as architecturally of very high merit, is criticised for "the position of the fine reference reading-room in relation to the stack-room, the cramped position of the delivery-hall, and the unfortunate shape and position of the stack-room, necessitating the use of elaborate mechanical arrangements for carrying the books."

THE LONDON TIMES DISCUSSION ON APPRAISAL.

AN interesting discussion on the subject of "appraisal" of literature was opened in the *London Times* of July 25 by a communication from Dr. Emil Reich on "Mr. Carnegie and bibliography." Mr. Reich's thesis is the need of a great elective bibliography, as a guide to libraries in the selection of books and a factor in the organization of national education, and he suggests that Mr. Carnegie might well apply a generous fund to this purpose, as the most important supplement to his library benefactions. He says in part:

"Over 15,000 bibliographies have been published—useful, admirable bibliographies, many of them elective bibliographies. Elective and really authoritative bibliographies alone have practically not been published at all, except a few works of so unwieldy a size, so complicated a construction, restricted to publications of so limited a time, as to render them useless for any other than highly trained specialists.

"Such elective bibliographies could not have been published before. The competent compilation of such elective bibliographies entails more expense than even the foremost of publishing houses would care to risk. Scientific academies, on the other hand, cannot very well do more than publish complete, not elective, bibliographies meant for specialists."

Dr. Reich's scheme for "a system of organization which would ensure the utmost efficiency, regardless of mere traditional 'authority,' in the choice of books, and which might very well lead to a very speedy termination of the work, say in four to six months," is thus outlined:

"Leaving out fiction for the present, as a subject that is better dealt with separately, we shall here consider only the requirements for an elective bibliography of serious subjects of study made for the use of public libraries (not for specialists). And first of all, we may assume that the number of broad subjects read up in public libraries, even in such of 50,000 volumes, does not exceed 30. Each of these subjects shall be entrusted to three scholars; each of these scholars to draw up a list of 1500 such works on his subject as he has long known from personal study to be really good, helpful, solid works. Each list of 1500 works shall be 'graded,' so that the first 500 works shall be such as would do for a smaller public library, the next group of 500 works such as would be required for a larger public library, and the last group of 500 works for a very large public library.

"The works to be found mentioned in all the three lists of the three scholars entrusted with the bibliography of a certain subject would be considered as absolutely recommendable; as almost equally good, the works obtaining mention in two lists; while the works mentioned only in one list might be either submitted to the vote of two new scholars or kept back as alternatives.

"However, each of the three times thirty scholars would himself be controlled by being furnished with a complete and not merely elective bibliography of his subject at the hand of the central committee, which might very well be left to a few competent hands. Such a small central committee is, as every student of bibliography knows, quite able to point out all of the complete, if unsifted, bibliographies of any subject, and has thus, one might almost say, a mechanical means of controlling the three times thirty sifters, especially with regard to omissions.

"In that way, and in that way alone, would it be possible to arrive at lists of books the value of which had been examined by the personal study of competent men. Nor would it be in any way difficult to arrive at a list of the required three scholars for each subject without giving offence to any one or bowing inconsiderately to mere titles. The scholars that have a solid grasp over the literature of their subjects are well known to the student from their laudable habit of appending critical bibliographies to the several chapters of their work. There can be no doubt, for instance, that Mr. J. G. Fraser has, of all living folklorists, the greatest grasp over the great literature of his subject, let alone over the literature of Greek archaeology. In adopting this strictly objective standard, the required three, or, if Mr. Carnegie prefers, five scholars for each subject might very well be reached with the almost complete certainty of having secured in them the most competent men. Once that list is made up the rest is a mere question of labor and expense."

Dr. Reich's suggestions are reviewed by

several correspondents in later issues of the *Times*. Practically all the comments are favorable, although a few recognize greater difficulties in the undertaking than Dr. Reich allows for. Among these is Dr. Garnett, who points out that "the foreseen difficulties of any undertaking are nothing to the unforeseen," but adds that he "has no doubt of its substantial practicability, provided that it is not marred by over-elaboration and that sufficient attention is paid to the requirements of the average man." Charles W. Sutton, the librarian of the Manchester Free Library, calls attention to Mr. Carnegie's endowment gift to the American Library Association, as indicating the initiation of an undertaking similar to that proposed by Dr. Reich. To this, Dr. Reich responds, in the *Times* for Aug. 22, stating that his proposal differs widely from the stated purpose of Mr. Carnegie's A. L. A. endowment. He says: "What I proposed was the endowment of a central committee and a number of experts, not with the 'income' of a fund limited to less than £800 per year but with a fund sufficiently large to cover the expenses of a definite great bibliographical and educational task in its inception, continuation and termination within a relatively very limited period of time." There is evident misconception of the use to be made of the A. L. A. endowment in his further remark that "Dr. Billings cannot with the small annual revenue at his disposal draw up reading lists remotely resembling such selective bibliographies as I submitted to the attention of Mr. Carnegie. All that Dr. Billings can do and all that he is doing is to draw up lists of what is practically current literature for the benefit of his readers." He adds: "My proposal excludes current literature proper, for evident reasons. There is no final judgment on contemporary literature. Leibniz ignored Newton's 'Principia,' and so did the Continent in general for a long time, and Schopenhauer's immortal work was nearly ignored for nearly a generation. The 'Carnegie-lists' I propose refer to the literature of the past, or roughly speaking to the period ending with the nineteenth century."

THE merely educated can scarcely ever be brought to believe that this world is an interesting place. When they look at a work of art, good or bad, they expect to be interested, but when they look at a newspaper advertisement or a group in the street, they do not, properly and literally speaking, expect to be interested. But to common and simple people this world is a work of art, though it is, like many great works of art, anonymous. They look to life for interest with the same kind of cheerful and unradicable assurance with which we look for interest at a comedy for which we have paid money at the door.

G. K. Chesterton, in "The defendant."

WESTERN LIBRARY MEETING, MADISON, WIS., AUGUST 28-30, 1902.

A MEETING of librarians, trustees and other friends of the library movement was held at the Historical Library building, at Madison, Wis., on August 28, 29 and 30, 1902. One hundred and fifty-four persons were registered, of whom 109 were from Wisconsin, 23 from Illinois, 5 from Iowa, 4 from New York, 3 from Minnesota, 2 from Nebraska, 2 from Kansas, 1 from North Dakota, 1 from Indiana, 1 from Ohio, 1 from Michigan, 1 from Pennsylvania, and 1 from Texas. Of this number there were 103 librarians and assistants, and 25 library trustees.

J. I. Wyer, of the Nebraska Library Commission, presided at the first session, which was opened with an address of welcome by F. A. Hutchins, of the Wisconsin Library Commission.

Miss Adelaide R. Hasse, chief of the Document Department of the New York Public Library, then led the discussion on "The vexed question of public documents." Miss Hasse's address is given elsewhere. (See p. 815.)

In the discussion that followed, Mr. Charles McCarthy, Madison, made a plea for the quicker publication and distribution of documents, much valuable material being a year behindhand. The chairman stated that the government index to public documents was always several months late. Miss Brooks, of the Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh, explained the method used in her library in cataloging the material, particular attention being paid to articles on glass, steel and other subjects of local interest. It was stated that the Library of Congress had the publication of catalog cards for documents under consideration. The Department of Agriculture already issues such cards. Miss Hasse advised accessioning, classifying and cataloging documents and scattering the books under the different subjects in the library. Mr. Hutchins called attention to the great waste incident to the present manner of publishing and distributing public documents, and moved that a committee of three be appointed, the chairman of the session to serve as a member, who, in conjunction with Miss Hasse, should consider the subject and report at the last session. The chair appointed F. A. Hutchins and A. H. Hopkins as his co-workers. Mr. Hutchins, upon request, was excused, and the name of Miss M. E. Ahern, editor of *Public Libraries*, was substituted. The secretary called for a rising vote of thanks to Miss Hasse for her able and instructive paper.

Thursday afternoon, the officers of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission kept "open house," giving the delegates opportunity to visit the fine new rooms in the Capitol. Visits were also made to the City Library, while many enjoyed a drive on the shore of Lake

Mendota. In the evening, the Historical Library building was thrown open for an enjoyable social hour tendered by the staff of the Historical and University libraries.

Anderson H. Hopkins, president of the Illinois Library Association, presided at the session on Friday morning. Those present listened with rare enjoyment to an informal talk by F. N. Doubleday, publisher, New York City, on "The relation of the publisher to the public as it is largely affected by librarians." This was one of the brightest talks ever listened to by Western librarians—indeed, so teeming with good things did the secretary find it that she herewith confesses her delinquency in taking notes, and her total inability to adequately reproduce the many bright points made. The woes of the publisher with his daily receipt of a barrel-and-a-half of manuscript were dwelt upon, humorously and again pathetically. The statement was made that it cost from \$5000 to \$10,000 a year to read such matter. The modern plan of selling subscription books for "1-a-month-for-the-rest-of-your-natural-life" found a warm champion. Advertising practices of publishers were dwelt upon as being a necessary factor in this competitive and commercial age, the speaker whimsically alluding to a desire for some means of telepathic communication through entire communities to the end that each and every citizen might be possessed of the desire to buy the latest book. In prophesying as to the work of the publisher of the future, Mr. Doubleday stated that there would be (a) a department devoted to the publication of magazines and periodicals; (b) an educational department, publishing better cyclopedias, etc., than those now compiled, and in addition conducting correspondence schools; (c) the publication of miscellaneous books; (d) a subscription department on a more extended system than that now in vogue. The publisher of the future will also, as sometimes happens now, (e) have books written for him on subjects of current interest by writers in his employ; and (f) he will place these books directly in the hands of the public on the principle of the shoe advertisement—"from calf to customer." In response to an inquiry, the speaker alluded to the recent attempt of his firm in publishing special library editions of popular books; and stated that the venture was meeting with but little encouragement from the librarians who had been demanding better bound books for years past! The speaker then presented the publisher's side of the recent "net" price controversy, showing the great cost involved in modern book-publishing.

Carrying out a suggestion made by Mr. Doubleday that librarians make suggestions to publishers of needs in the book world, Mr. Hutchins made a plea for better books in American biography—better lives of Lincoln, Washington, Marton, Kit Carson, Daniel

Boone, etc. A pledge from Albert Brandt, publisher, Trenton, N. J., was read by the secretary as follows: "Every book bearing my imprint shall be mentally and morally honest as to its subject matter and text, so far as lies within my power to have it so. Every book issued by me will be honestly made from honest, all-rag paper, free from wood-pulp and other adulterants. Every book that I publish will be sewed by hand, 'all-along,' in the old-fashioned way and 'opened' before shipping to ensure a stout and flexible back." The hope was fervently expressed that other publishers would see the error of their ways and do likewise.

The discussion was naturally followed by an address on "The bookseller and the librarian," by C. M. Roe, Chicago. Mr. Roe entered immediately into an explanation of the present difficulty by stating that it was a "haggling over prices," the pocketbook being more sensitive than any part of the actual anatomy. It would require many years yet, the speaker contended, to reimburse the bookseller for his losses of the past ten years. The organization of the American Publishers' Association and the American Booksellers' Association was defended as not being combinations for monopoly, but formed solely for conserving legitimate profits in a business which has been well-nigh ruined by indiscriminate price cutting. This form of combination or co-operation was said to be beneficent in its nature as it seeks to create and foster bookstores everywhere. The Publishers' and Booksellers' Associations exist not for their own corporate aggrandizement, but in order that each individual member, be he never so small, may have an equal chance to secure a reasonable profit. Three reasons contributed to the organization of the combination: first, the unfortunate custom of giving discounts to certain classes had been gradually extended until it included the entire book-buying public and increased from 10 per cent. to 25 per cent., and even 30 per cent., leaving the bookseller scarcely enough to pay expenses; second, the department stores had seized upon the popular books for advertising purposes, selling them for a few cents above cost, and often for cost or less, giving the public the impression that the regular bookseller was charging exorbitant prices and making enormous profits and so alienating the public from him; third, libraries were securing their books at about their cost, in some cases at cost, the bookseller losing his expenses. In May, 1901, the rule of the American Publishers' Association, that booksellers should allow librarians only 10 per cent. from the prices of all new "net" books went into effect. The librarians at once urged publishers to increase the discount to 25 per cent. The booksellers protested at this as it would make the library trade as unprofitable as it was before. To date, the Publishers' Association has taken no action in the

matter. Even with the help of the "net" price system during the past year, one of the largest book-supply houses has declared a dividend of but two per cent. The speaker did not agree with Mr. Dewey that the free public library will supplant the circulating library and the small bookstore, as well. The great increase of wealth and of general knowledge, he said, assures a rapidly increasing body of readers who will make it possible and profitable for the private circulating library and the bookseller to exist along with the greatest possible number of public libraries. A little readjustment is necessary—a seeking of new methods, of cultivating our own special field rather than a loss of temper or a resort to frantic appeals and extreme statements.

The bookseller always has been and always should be the most logical and natural channel through which publishers distribute books to libraries. He has a training and facilities which make it advantageous to both publisher and librarian to have him act as intermediary. He is willing to spend time and money to look up books which he alone knows how to secure and to advise about the best of the many editions and binding and to risk a goodly sum of money in carrying a large stock of goods that publishers may be represented and that librarians may have opportunity for selection near at hand. But for all this he very naturally and justly wishes a fair compensation. This the old method would not give and the new will give only in scant measure. In view of these facts, then, would it not be well for librarians to desist from presenting further resolutions to the publishers, asking for larger discounts, and turn their attention rather to securing larger appropriations for the purchase of books? Of money there is a plenty and there should be little difficulty in securing enough to give an ample stock of books to every library in the land unless, indeed, public benefactors are more anxious to be represented by beautiful and striking library buildings which stand all day in the eyes of the people, rather than by the more obscure but in the end more powerful witnesses to their generosity which stand silent on the shelves within. The speaker concluded with the thought that he had faith enough in the common sense of librarians and booksellers generally to look forward to the day when both will be working harmoniously, each for the good of the other, and for the benefit of the greatest book-reading and book-buying public the world has ever known—the American people—whom they have the extreme good fortune and exalted privilege to serve.

The chairman then presented the librarians' side of the question, making a forceful argument for a lower discount to libraries. The discussion was carried on with the utmost courtesy and good feeling on both sides.

Mrs. Mary Holland Kinkaid, literary edi-

tor, Milwaukee, Wis., then presented the subject of "The book review—its worth and worthlessness." It seemed presumptuous, the speaker said, to speak to an assembly of librarians concerning the worth and worthlessness of book-reviewing. Librarians know more about the subject than any other class of persons in the world, and if a vote were taken there would probably be a unanimity of opinion on the general uselessness of what is nowadays called a review. In the matter of passing judgment on new publications, librarians have found it safe to go on the principle that if one wants a thing well done it is necessary to do it one's self. The librarian's evaluation of a book has a twofold worth, for he is compelled to judge of its influence upon that immense and constantly increasing body of persons commonly referred to as the "reading public." While the reviewer merely examines the book as an apothecary analyzes a new drug, the librarian is like a physician who must take account of its effect upon those to whom it is administered. Most of the ephemeral literature of the day is, to be sure, homeopathic; but in even the sugar-coated pills of fiction, dangerous or at least nauseating ingredients are to be found. Some wit has said that Americans are divided into two classes—those who make speeches and those who are preparing to make them; but it is nearer the truth to say that Americans are divided into two classes—those who write books and those who are preparing to write them. The prolific output of books—novels leading all other literary works in numbers—has changed the position of the reviewer. Once upon a time a reviewer was a personage of tremendous influence. A glance at any of our periodicals of 30 or 40 years ago shows how seriously the reviewers once regarded their profession and how patronizingly they treated those favored authors whom they condescended to notice. Until the latter half of the last century the book-reviewer was a personage whose dictum did much to make or unmake ambitious authors. His personality was clothed in mystery. He was a critic in the full meaning of the word. He analyzed the work of an author. It was with joy that he detected an anachronism or a trace of plagiarism. He did not skim over the pages of a new book. He took it home and burned midnight oil reading it. Before him, when he was really great, the publisher trembled. The review which appeared in a leading magazine or a weekly paper had something the same value that a scientist's opinion on a new consumption cure has nowadays. But the book-reviewer is no longer a rara avis. His species has become as numerous as that of the English sparrow. He is not confined to the weekly and monthly magazines; his is not now the privilege of carefully weighing what he says. In order to

keep up with the hundreds of books poured from the presses of the publishers, he must work unceasingly. He must have a place in the newspapers. It is this adaptation to the daily journals that has widened the fields of the reviewer and raised the question concerning the worth and worthlessness of his work.

It may have been in self-defence that many American publishers started literary magazines in which they could exploit the value of their own books and deal charitably with the books of other publishers who would return favor for favor. These literary magazines, owned by great publishing concerns, are to-day the best mirrors of contemporaneous literature. The worth of their reviews cannot be questioned, although if any fault is to be found with them, they are perhaps too lenient in judging the majority of the books, especially those that come from the presses of rival publishers. Professional etiquette naturally prevents the scathing condemnation of works that rival publishers have thought worth while to put upon the market. The reviews in these magazines have a special value in that they often, in interpreting a book, add to its real worth, since their writers bring to it scholarly appreciation and a peculiar clarity of vision. The eye trained to discover hidden beauties in fiction and poetry, philosophy in history and biography, and good in everything, detects talent and even genius where the ordinary person would be blind.

The book review columns in the daily papers have been set aside as a concession to the public. The multiplication of books and the increase of readers has so widened the interest in current literature that editors, who are, after all, very wise and far-seeing persons, have recognized that the up-to-date journal which gives a page each day of sporting events ought to be able to devote a column a day to books. The book column has proved so popular that most great newspapers have weekly literary supplements. To these the leading authors of the day contribute essays and critical articles. Thus gradually the book reviewer or literary editor of the daily paper has come to have almost as great an influence as the editors of the literary magazines.

The newspaper reviewer has much more space at his command than the magazine critic. He is supposed to know what will please the public, and the very nature of his work has compelled him to modify the old accepted style of review. For this reason it has become more and more the custom to avoid analysis and to tell the story. Newspaper readers care less about the author's style than they do about his plot. When they turn to the literary column they are pleased to know that Mr. Lariat Sombrero, the talented young western author who has recently settled in Chicago, has written a new novel

dealing with the breezy life of the prairies. They do not care to know whether Lariat Sombrero has improved his English. His split infinitives and his reckless use of shalls and wills disturb them not at all. They do not care whether he has grasped life truly and striven to interpret its meanings philosophically. What they want to know is whether the hero is a masterful young man who supplies incident for the pages of the book. They have a curiosity to find out whether the story ends happily. It used to be one of the unwritten laws of book reviewing that the story never should be spoiled for the possible reader. But nowadays the book reviewer in the daily papers frequently feels impelled to tell the whole plot to the end. His column is a feature. It must be made worth reading. While it may be a medium through which publishers can advertise their wares, above all things it must be made entertaining enough to hold the public interest. It has to compete with the tragedies and comedies of real life as recorded in the news columns. It has been charged that the book reviews in the newspapers are written with the main object of obtaining advertisements from the publishers, but the unjustness of this accusation must be generally acknowledged. The business office and the editorial department as a rule do not interfere. The book reviewer is given free rein. It is supposed that he will be trustworthy and conscientious. The fact that he points out the defects in a book does not deter the publisher from advertising in a newspaper that contains an unfavorable review. It must be remembered that the literary editor probably has praised nine books from each publisher where he has criticized one. As a rule publishers are satisfied if they have their share of notice. They are long suffering and patient. I have never known one of them to protest against a sarcastic or otherwise unkind book notice. The very nature of their business appears to fill them with an inexhaustible stock of hope.

This brings one to the question concerning the personality of the book reviewer. Is he conscientious and unbiased? As a rule, can his opinions be relied upon? Is he not likely to have strong preferences for certain lines of writing? May not his predilection for history and philosophy make him unfit to pass judgment on poetry and fiction? Does not the worth or worthlessness of his criticism depend too much upon the temperament? Those who happen to have had even a glimpse of the work of reviewing must know that a critic's lot is not a happy one. They know that the daily process of reading all sorts of books has the effect of wearing away many individual tastes. The reviewer devours books automatically, and withal so hastily that he has not time properly to taste them or to notice their distinct flavors.

It is to be expected that the book reviewer will be compelled to fight mental dyspepsia; but, fortunately, there are always plenty of books that act as tonics after the critic has been sated by inane fiction. As a rule it may be said that fear of this mental dyspepsia causes the majority of reviewers to be unduly kind to the literary works that pass through their hands.

Necessarily the author must be subjected to more or less injustice because of the reviewer's haste in reading books. The man whose work it is to scan the pages of new publications always has too much to do in these days when successful authors take two days off between books. Having read the title-page of a new book, he instantly classifies it under the head to which he thinks it belongs. He glances over the first chapter in order to obtain the locale of the tale and the names of the hero and heroine. When a book like "The story of Molly Mont Pelee" falls into his hands he gives it twice as much space as he has devoted to the last book of Herbert Spencer or the newest drama of Stephen Phillips. It is just here that the newspaper book-column becomes worthless from a literary point of view. It caters to an unworthy public. Its editor feels compelled to vie with the police reporter. The paragrapher who is always on the watch for something new upon which to turn a merry quip, falls upon Molly Mont Pelee and there is instantly a tremendous demand for her book. At this point librarians who are accustomed to distrust book reviews in general, and those in the daily papers in particular, step in to prohibit the circulation of the volume or to retire it to the quarantine department. As a result, Miss Molly Mont Pelee makes her fortune and the publisher rejoices over tremendous returns.

The most recent objection to the modern book reviewer was raised in one of the leading weekly publications. The discovery that the present cultivated generation is bored by "The autocrat of the breakfast table" led to the inquiry whether book reviewing, which is largely in the hands of men and women of mature age, really represents the cultivated sense of the time. It was pointed out that if any critic should canvass the opinions of a group of young college students, all of whom have come from reading parents, he would find that none cared for the Autocrat. Moreover, this failure of appreciation, it was declared, would extend to "My summer in a garden" and "The reveries of a bachelor." Is the average book reviewer too old to appreciate the point of view of young Americans? Is he behind the publisher in his understanding of what will appeal to the minds of young men and young women who are just from the universities? These questions seem too absurd to be considered. It is true that the humor of one generation appears flat, stale

and unprofitable to the next. It is true that with the changed conditions in American life there is a metamorphosis of literary ideas. Yet the middle-aged critic necessarily has the experience and discernment, the knowledge and discrimination that fit him to pass judgment upon new writers.

Another question often asked is whether the imprint of a publishing house famous for the high quality of its books does not influence the critic to praise mediocre writing. But even the wisest publishers will be found nodding nowadays, and every firm is likely now and then to bring out one or two books that are not up to its highest standard. It must be acknowledged that to a certain extent the reviewer is swayed by the publisher's name, but long experience has shown that American critics are quick to recognize excellence wherever it is found.

The reviewer is, of course, the coadjutor of the advertiser. The department of promotion in every publishing firm approves of the book reviewer. Even when his work is not scholarly or worthy, the literary critic of the daily newspaper at least calls attention to new books. He awakens interest among a class of persons not reached by the distinctly literary journals or even by the monthly magazines. He has therefore a great responsibility. His opportunity for doing good is tremendous. It is his privilege to introduce the new books to the public. The advertiser keeps the public from forgetting them. The advertising methods of publishers have come in for quite as much criticism as the reviewing methods of literary critics.

Although it is easy to laugh at the megaphone system of crying literary wares, no thinking person can deny that it has produced good results. The newspaper reviews and advertisements buried among police items and department store announcements have awakened interest among thousands of persons who otherwise would not know when a new poet sings his first song or when a sincere student of life writes a great novel. The newspaper reviews lead to the reading of literary magazines. They inspire a curiosity to become familiar with the works that are exploited in the public prints.

Figures show that the vogue of the book review is on the increase and that the reviewers continue to multiply. Because nothing is perfect in this world, the book review that is in every way worthy may not be common, but there is not a month that does not bring to the public some essay of rare value. In this day good writing is so common that it passes almost unnoticed. But the time has gone by when Americans can be easily led by the opinions of any dictator. This is seen in the decadence of the editorial and even in the loss of a certain arbitrary influence that preachers used to wield. For this reason the book review is read nowadays more for the

news about the latest publications than for the guidance it may afford. In the case of literature that is really good, the book review does splendid service in bringing it before the public. Novels are likely to be read simply because they are novels, but poetry, philosophy, and history are not sought with the same avidity as the story that promises to introduce readers to an unreal world. A paragraph from the pen of some master mind, quoted in the course of a perfunctory review, may awaken a desire to become familiar with the work of power. Verses taken at random from the book of a poet may win for the unknown singer a wide following. Lines culled here and there from the pages of an essay may make thousands think. These possibilities lead to the belief that even though the book review may be only a book notice, even though it may be a careless synopsis of a careful author's work, even though it may be often unjust and frequently unworthy, it is an agent of modern education. Since this is true, its worth overbalances its worthlessness to such an extent that it must be accepted as a permanent feature of modern journalism. In the future it may improve. Indeed there may come a time when every library school has a department for the training of book reviewers, but until that period arrives, it is necessary to be to the faults of the review "a little blind and to its virtues wondrous kind."

Upon the conclusion of Mrs. Kinkaid's paper, the chairman thanked those who had taken part in the morning session for their helpful addresses.

At the Trustees' Section on Friday afternoon, F. A. Hutchins, presided, in the absence of Thomas M. Kearney. F. J. Finucane, trustee, Antigo, Wis., opened a discussion with a talk on "The relation of the library board to the city government." The three points of contact, he stated were (1) in the appointment of the library board, (2) the city's support and (3) the report made to the city council. The speaker then took up the first point and made a plea for the appointment of those only who were willing to work. With shirks he had no patience and drones should not be tolerated. Adequate support of the library should be given as a necessary part of civic life. The annual report to the council should be made full and complete; nothing as to the library's workings should be concealed. The library should be run on business principles, thus winning the respect of the city authorities and taxpayers. W. J. Stevens, trustee, Marquette, Mich., then told of his board's method of doing away with the drones—seeing to it that they were not reappointed. The chairman of the afternoon advocated the appointment of one or two politicians who knew how to reach men and to carry things through councils, etc. The discussion was followed by a talk by Miss

Merica Hoagland, organizer, Indiana State Library Commission, on "Library training—its demands and remuneration." This was a strong presentation of the duties and responsibilities of librarianship. The educational demands of the age were emphasized, and the importance of securing the best help possible in libraries—the great centers of public education—was dwelt upon. The modern librarian "should combine the womanliness of a Ruth and the patience of a Job with the wisdom of Minerva." At this stage of library development it is absurd to appoint the daughter of a politician or a broken-down teacher or a soldier's widow who needs financial aid. One can afford to perform these acts of charity in a private business, but the speaker believed that it was downright robbery to appoint an inefficient librarian who daily defrauds the people from that effectual service which it is their right to have. The question of remuneration is a serious one. The librarian of the small library should receive at least that paid a local High School teacher. For a library having an annual income of \$5000, the librarian should receive from \$75 to \$100 a month, the children's librarian \$45 to \$60, and the second assistant from \$20 to \$30. In the matter of salaries, we must remember that we are working in a transition period, and must deal patiently and intelligently with the situation, striving only to raise the standard of librarians in their respective positions and to fill vacancies as they occur with librarians of recognized fitness and ability.

G. L. Ridsdale, president of the board of trustees of the Marinette (Wis.) Public Library, gave a humorous account of his library "before" and "after" employing a trained librarian, paying a deserved tribute to the work of Miss Julia E. Elliott, now in charge.

Miss Mary Williams, librarian, Neenah, Wis., gave a bright little talk on "The principles of book selection." Miss Williams cited the advice given in the "Co-operative handbook on library organization" as being wise to follow. The best committee on book selection, she stated, was a committee of "one," thus ensuring against fluctuating likes and dislikes of larger numbers. The lack of money was a boon in one direction, as it made possible the selection of only the best for purchase. The committee should bear in mind the wishes and needs of the whole community and not of the cultured few.

Miss Emily Turner, librarian, Oshkosh, told of "The establishment of branches and stations" in larger towns, as filling a need that can be supplied in no other way. The speaker told of the establishment of two stations in her city which were patronized by children who had never visited the central library. "We have a saloon right on our corner," said a child, "and don't need to go

over to the part of the town where the library is."

P. V. Lawson, president of the Winnebago County Travelling Library Board, made a plea for the extension of library privileges to farmers. He stated that 80 per cent. of the libraries of Wisconsin allow farmers to draw books freely, and hoped that the plan would be universally adopted.

Friday evening, a steamer trip was tendered the visitors by the Madison Democrat Printing Company, which was thoroughly enjoyed. Later, an impromptu social hour was spent by some of the members at the Summer Library School house, where a number of the delegates unexpectedly made the acquaintance of "Sir Hinkum Feather Duster" and his numerous train of followers. Music and dancing closed the evening's pleasures.

Saturday morning, Normand S. Patton, architect, Chicago, Ill., opened the session by a talk on the "Essentials of library architecture." The speaker stated that his experience with library trustees led him to believe that a popular vote would give as the first essential that the library must be beautiful, an ornament to the town. In making an analysis of the practical requirements of the library architecture, there is a broad subdivision into two parts: first, the building must serve the convenience and comfort of the public; second, it must facilitate efficient and economical administration. Probably 90 per cent. of the failures in buildings rest in the provisions for administration to 10 per cent. in the arrangements for the public. The cause of this will be apparent upon a moment's reflection. An architect who begins for the first time the planning of a library is apt to imagine that he has himself a sufficient knowledge of the requirements and has little need of advice or special study. He says to himself: "Am I not a patron of the public library? and do I not know the various purposes which it is to serve? I will make the main entrance lead to a spacious delivery room, which shall be the focus of the interior and be surmounted by a domed ceiling. The delivery counter should be opposite the entrance, and back of this the book cases. Next I will have one or two stairways to the second floor, which can be grouped with the entrance hall. Then come the reading and reference rooms. These must, above all things, be quiet, and will most appropriately be placed in the wings where there will be added advantage of abundant light." All these and many other details will occur to the architect, who will proceed to lay out a plan combining convenience and comfort for the public with architectural beauty, and the plan will be successful in these particulars, because the architect being himself one of the public, is qualified to know the public wants.

When the architect has arranged the pub-

lic rooms, he turns his attention to the needs of the librarian and lays out a librarian's room convenient to the public and the book stacks, and finally, congratulating himself that he knows enough to add a cataloging room, considers the work done.

Mr. Patton had drawn a plan, typical of many, for a small library, containing a long narrow stack and other bad features, which he proceeded to criticise. The architect of such a design, he stated, should have imagined himself to be the librarian. Then he would have discovered that there could be no supervision of the reading room or children's room from the desk, thus necessitating placing special attendants in these rooms and increasing the cost of administration beyond the ability of the community. The first essential should be supervision. In these days of an almost universal open-shelf system, provision must be made to bring the book shelves or stack under the eye of the librarian as well.

Supervision of the reading and reference rooms may be obtained by broad lights of glass, but in the smaller libraries it is better to consider the whole floor as one great room, separate portions of which are set apart for special purposes. There need be no division between delivery and stack rooms when the public may pass freely from one to the other. The reading rooms should be shielded from the noise of those passing in and out to return and draw books; but a partial enclosure is sufficient for this purpose. There are reasons for giving the children a separate space, but such discipline should be maintained that the doors need not be shut.

The most perfect supervision of the stack room may be obtained by the radiating stack, which makes every aisle visible from the desk. A very short use of the "free access" system will develop the necessity of modifying the delivery desk. This can no longer be a counter with the librarian behind it, for the public comes from the stack room and attacks the librarian from the rear. The librarian needs a fortification on all sides, hence the circular or octagonal counter.

Taking up the subdivisions of the floor space—in smaller buildings the reference books may be placed in wall cases in the reading room. In larger libraries a separate room should be provided.

The children's room, a modern invention, must now be considered an essential. When the maintenance fund is small this room must be on the main floor. If there be a high basement the children may be accommodated there, with a direct entrance from the street, and there must be a special attendant in charge.

There is a marked tendency among librarians to do their work where they are accessible to the public and can oversee the

work of their assistants. Hence the librarian's room is to be considered not as a work room so much as a place for occasional conferences. This gives the architect more liberty in the planning of this room.

The cataloging is more likely to be done within the delivery counter, or wherever an assistant is required for supervision, and, therefore, the cataloging room may be omitted in smaller libraries, or the librarian's room used for cataloging. However, it is a convenience, almost amounting to a necessity, to have a general utility room connecting with the reading room and stack room. This may be cataloging room, or reference room, or special study, or seminar room. Whatever it may be called, it will serve a variety of purposes.

As a more practical illustration of the essentials of a library plan than can be given by any description, Mr. Patton had prepared a suggestive diagram of a library to cost from twenty-five to fifty thousand dollars. The simplicity of the arrangement is partly because of the small appropriation, but simplicity rather than complexity should characterize even the largest buildings.

Upon the conclusion of Mr. Patton's talk, the speaker was subjected to a fusillade of questions from all sides, his suggestion that the children's room might be placed in the basement bringing forth much caustic criticism. "Give the children the best room in the house" was a suggestion that was loudly applauded. The plan of arranging the books around the walls before the introduction of any stack, as exemplified in the drawings of John Lawrence Mauran, St. Louis, for the new Racine building, met with much favor. This plan has many unique features, the small collection of books—about 8,000 volumes—to be housed in a \$50,000 brick and terra cotta building admitting of wide latitude of arrangement. The plans for the new Marinette, Wis., library were drawn upon the blackboard and criticised most vigorously. A letter was read from a librarian calling attention to many faults in a building now under construction as showing lack of attention to details in library administration by architects. There was no place to store so much as a bottle of ink or a book awaiting repairs, except in an empty room in the basement. No part of the delivery desk was enclosed, no cupboard, no cash drawer—a three-cent fine presumably being taken down to the basement and locked in an enormous vault, with double doors and a combination lock; no book-lift, and the unpacking room in the basement on the opposite side of the librarian's office; a public toilet room next to the entrance and directly facing the delivery desk; the shelves in the children's room over six feet high; the top of the delivery desk of marble, etc., etc.

H. P. Bird, of Wausaukee, Wis., drew the plan of a "social hall," which he has presented to his home town. Wausaukee is a typical lumber town in the northern part of Wisconsin, the population of which is composed very largely of "lumber jacks," who work in the woods and neighboring sawmills. The "lumber jack" does not like to be considered an object of charity, and so a lunch room or lounging room has been provided on the first floor of the "social hall," where, for a few cents, he may purchase coffee and sandwiches or a meal in the dining room. On the floor above the lunch room there is a library of over 1000 volumes and a reading room with the latest papers and periodicals. This is kept open from seven o'clock in the morning until eleven o'clock at night, seven days in the week. A place is provided and stationery furnished for those who wish to write letters. In the basement a bowling alley is being installed and other amusement features. Mr. Bird's talk aroused great interest among the delegates who realized that the social life of communities is being almost wholly neglected by modern libraries and might be made a valuable adjunct in winning the interest of the workingmen, who, when all is said and done, do not patronize public libraries.

Upon the conclusion of the discussion, the Committee on Public Documents made the following report:

"To the Western Library Meeting

"Your committee on government documents respectfully submits the following report, prepared in consultation with Miss A. R. Hasse.

"The following is suggested as a form for letter to be addressed by libraries to Congressmen:

Hon. _____
_____ from _____
Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR SIR:

At the Western Library Meeting, held at Madison, Wis., Aug. 28-30, 1902, and attended by representatives from 13 states of Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin, Kansas, Nebraska, Minnesota, Indiana, Michigan, North Dakota, New York, Pennsylvania and Texas, the following report of a special committee on United States Documents was adopted, and is forwarded to you with the urgent petition that you do earnestly try to get a hearing on the matters treated therein before the Committee on Library to the end that suitable legislation may be framed and enacted which shall correct any existing wasteful and unnecessary distribution of public documents, and which shall render more prompt and effective the printing and distribution of the indexes designed to make the contents of our government documents widely known and easily available.

1. *Graduated distribution to designated depositories.* Your committee recommends a graduated distribution of government documents to designated depositories, regulated in some degree by the size of the depository library so that only the largest libraries and those so desiring, shall receive both cloth and sheep bound copies of documents issued in both forms.

Many of the smaller depository libraries would be glad to be relieved of the burden of shelving and caring for these second copies, and in many cases the smallest libraries would be glad to discontinue entirely certain titles for which they have little or no use.

Under present conditions every depository library, great and small, must receive every one of the five or six hundred volumes sent out annually, many of them in duplicate, or as a sole alternative promising any sort of relief, must relinquish its depository privilege and trust to the uncertain service by local Congressman.

Any such re-classification of depository libraries as recommended above, should of course be made only after consulting all libraries affected.

2. *Privilege of selection by non-depository libraries.* Your committee recommends that non-depository libraries which now can get documents only by constantly importuning local Congressmen or the various departmental bureaus, be permitted under proper limitations, to select certain titles most useful to them and which shall thereafter be sent to them regularly.

It is further suggested that this privilege of selection be extended to include single, occasional documents of special value and interest which may from time to time be placed in the hands of the Superintendent of Documents for distribution.

3. *Larger edition of monthly catalog.* Your committee urges the monthly catalog of public documents which under the present law may now be supplied only to depository libraries, be issued in sufficient number to supply all libraries asking for it. Many libraries learn of the publication of valuable material only by chance or too late to profit most by it, but would be able if receiving the monthly catalog to follow current publications.

4. *Prompter issue of monthly catalog.* Your committee requests that the monthly catalog be issued more promptly than now. It is now from three to four months behind, appearing six or eight weeks after the British monthly catalog reaches this country.

"In conclusion, your committee heartily commends the efforts which are being made constantly by the Superintendent of Documents to make our government publications of the largest possible usefulness, and desires to mention specially the new cumulative index in the monthly catalog; the greater promptness in the issue of sheep bound volumes and the increased efficiency in mailing and regular receipt. We desire also to commend the legislation embodied in Senate File 4261, which failed to become a law at the last Congress, and to bespeak the efforts of all congressmen in securing passage of a similar law at the coming session.

J. I. WYER, Chairman,
MARY EILEEN AHERN,
A. H. HOPKINS."

The chairman of the committee made the further recommendation that the report herewith given be submitted for criticism to L. C. Ferrell, Superintendent of Documents, Washington, and to Roland P. Falkner, Chief of Division of Documents, Library of Congress. It was moved and carried that the report with recommendations be adopted and the committee continued with power to act.

After a vote of thanks to all who had contributed in any way to make the sessions of profit and pleasure, the meeting adjourned.

L. E. STEARNS, Secretary.

LIBRARY DEPARTMENT OF THE NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

THE Library Department of the National Educational Association met for its first session this year in the general reading room of the library of the University of Minnesota at 2.30 p.m. on Thursday, July 10. The assembly contained many representatives of the Minnesota Library Association, which had taken advantage of the occasion to hold its tenth annual meeting at the same time, and had included the two sessions of the Library Department in its program. This increased the attendance not a little and brought into the audience a number of persons more deeply interested in library work than has been usual at meetings of the Department.

Because of the unavoidable absence from Minneapolis of Dr. J. H. Canfield, the president of the Department, and the tardy appearance of R. P. Halleck, the vice-president of the Department, the meeting was not called to order promptly. After some delay the chair was taken by Miss M. E. Ahern, the secretary of the Department, and the regular program as announced was begun.

Schubert's "The night" was sung by the Minneapolis Ladies' Quartette, after which the secretary, acting as chairman, made a number of announcements and read a pleasant letter from Dr. Canfield expressing his regret at his inability to be present, and explaining that this was caused by the fact that his university had named him to be its official representative at two international educational assemblages to be held in two European capitals.

After all the miscellaneous business had been completed and the program was well under way, Vice-president Halleck made his appearance and assumed the chair.

The first set paper was read by W. A. Millis, Superintendent of Schools, Crawfordsville, Ind., who took for his subject "The library as an educator," and presented what was certainly a careful and thoughtful consideration of the subject. A real effort had been made to treat the subject in a fashion to give it value to the listeners. In his attempt Mr. Millis was very successful, but it was clearly evident that his contribution was that of one who had not experience in library work.

"Libraries and schools, a two-faced question," was the title of an address given by Miss Emma Fordyce, teacher of English, High School, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, who followed Mr. Millis. Her treatment of the question was very bright and attractive. In it she rang the changes from grave to gay, and from the ludicrous to the pathetic.

Next in order came greetings from the American Library Association, by Anderson

H. Hopkins, assistant librarian of the John Crerar Library, Chicago. He said:

"It has been several months since I was named to be the official representative of the American Library Association at this meeting. If it had been known at that time what would be the action of the American Library Association at its election less than a month ago, you might have been spared this infliction, and I some natural embarrassment at the situation in which I find myself. Three weeks ago in general conference assembled, Dr. James K. Hosmer, librarian of the Minneapolis Public Library, was elected president, and Dr. James H. Canfield, librarian of Columbia University Library and President of the Department of the National Educational Association, was elected first vice-president. Surely my services as official representative cannot be sorely needed under such circumstances; but I had in good faith engaged to act, and here I am in good faith acting.

"I bring you greeting, joyous, earnest and real. It is no empty word I bring. Spontaneity is the keynote, and its harmony with that same tonic of all that is best in our educational world is perfect and complete.

"Three weeks ago in Boston, and at that beautiful spot beside the sea, named for its choicest plant, Magnolia, were gathered a thousand earnest men and women. They are the patrons, I fear it might almost be said the devotees, of the printed book. Their cry was Educate! educate! educate! And their query was How? how? how? To-day are gathered here, shall I say, eight thousand earnest men and women, and as their united voices reach my ear, I hear them intone the same cry: Educate! educate! educate! followed by the same earnest query: How? how? how? To the voice of this throng I would fain join mine. But when the cry has sounded and resounded, followed by its persistent query, I would add another question: Why? why? Why are we not working together? Is not our quest the same? Are we not seeking the same light? Why do we stagger on alone? Why do we not join hands to support each the other?

"Would that I might answer this last query in a straightforward manner without offence, but that may not be. The utmost that I can hope to do is to suggest one or two possible causes for the slowness in growth of this co-operation between teacher and librarian, a joining of forces and of interests which, on the face of things, is so much to be desired. We know that each is busy with the details and small perplexities of his own particular office. Let me submit that a prime fault is that he is over-busy with these and fails to look about him, thus breeding an insularity that reminds one too much of Lowell's characterization of a certain condescension in foreigners.

"It must not be forgotten that truth is many-sided. It is well sometimes to establish one's seat so close to truth itself that the human eye can see but one of its infinitude of faces; but it must be remembered that before the whole truth can be seen, the human soul must recede as facet after facet comes into view until the magic of infinity is reached, the sign is changed, and new glories greet the eye on the other side.

"We are too prone to be so bound up in our callings that we overlook the others, that we forget there are many other callings as important as our own, and that some of them are of quite as great force educationally and for the betterment of the world as ours. But as I conceive it, there are not many that might be united to better advantage than ours. And now why does not this union come about more rapidly? Let me say—not in the way of fault-finding or recrimination or reproach, but merely as pointing out—that it is more your fault than ours that our union is not closer. The organization of your institution is much older, more complete and more powerful than is that of ours. Indeed, while it is correct to say that the public school is an organized educational force, it is not correct to make the same statement concerning the public library. It is not organized at all as an educational force except by that voluntary association which is so great a thing indeed; but it is not sufficient. We now have before us the curious sight of two great educational movements in action. Yours the stronger, serves directly the individual through a small number of years. Ours, the weaker, serves directly the individual through almost the whole of his life period. The weaker stands facing the stronger at this moment with outstretched hands and ready will. The stronger looks impassively on. If this seems abstract to you let me cite a concrete instance. There are many departments in the National Educational Association, and among them is one called the Library Department. There are librarians not engaged in the profession of teaching who attend its sessions and transact much of its business. There are many sections in the American Library Association. These sections are to the American Library Association what the Departments are to the National Educational Association, but among them no Teachers' Section is to be found. And in my experience as a member of the American Library Association, I do not remember to have met at its meetings any teachers who were not engaged in library work professionally. By what initiative was the Library Department of the National Educational Association inaugurated? By that of teachers, or of librarians? If a teachers' section of the American Library Association comes into existence, by whose activities will it be created,

that of teachers, or of librarians? And if it does not come into existence, why not?

"In a state which shall not be named, but which has a large and elaborately organized teachers' association and also a smaller and perhaps less elaborately organized library association, an attempt was made some years ago to organize a library section in the teachers' association. I cannot, and do not wish to recount the circumstances. It will be sufficient to say that the attempt all but failed because of the insistence by the larger association that the smaller should sink and lose its identity in the formation of a section of the larger. The section was formed, but it has never yet drawn the breath of life.

"These are melancholy things. I do not like to say them, and do not say them because of any liking or disliking, but because I believe they ought to be said—and said to you.

"In a brief talk with Dr. G. Stanley Hall, at the meeting of the Department of Superintendence in Chicago last winter, in reply to my question about the possibility of a closer organic relation between schools and libraries, he stated it as his opinion that such a relation ought to exist, but that no one yet seemed to have suggested an effective plan. But a plan seems lying already at hand waiting to be used. The school has a well developed organization through its central bureaus beginning with the Bureau of Education at the seat of federal government and extending down to the community through these successive steps: the state superintendent of public instruction, the county superintendent, the township trustee, the district school teacher. These are linked together, forming a fairly compact organization. Now the public library is following the same historic road in its development, and the signs are already clear in the sky heralding the approach of the first two of these central bureaus. Are we—you and I—to sleep the time away and let these two educational forces parallel each other with separate organizations for the same purpose, or shall we join hands and stand together?

"The people are ready and willing for these economic combinations in the educational world as well as in the realm of commerce.

"Consider for a moment the clumsy processes through which we must go to produce a printed page from the spoken words. Think for a moment of the strength which has been expended in this Association in the hope that a simplified English spelling may be secured; and then remember that only a single short step remains to be taken by some patient mechanical genius, and with a little time all this difficulty melts away like the mist of early dawn. Let me make more clear what I mean. We have long had certain symbols by which is translated to the eye the thought that is translated to the ear by

the spoken word. We have now machines in plenty by which the spoken word is received, translated into, and recorded in symbols natural to it but to which our eyes are unaccustomed. There remains but a single step, namely, to discover the selective principle whereby the one symbol is mechanically translated into the other symbol and the problem is solved. When this mechanical step has been taken, as it will be, the writer may sit at his desk and dictate his thought to the machine—not a human machine—at his side and behold it faithfully reproduce in type his blunders as well as his accuracies. Then—and not till then—will our spelling become simplified and our speech no longer slovenly.

"If this great change may be wrought by one so short step in the mechanical world, what may be wrought in the educational world by the longer steps that lie squarely before us in our pathway. The world is waiting, waiting! Shall we doze the time away? Or shall we join hands and take the forward step together?"

This closed the set program for the afternoon. Dr. J. K. Hosmer, president of the American Library Association, was present, and in response to a hearty call for a word he arose, and in a brief speech supplemented the greeting which had been given and expressed his gratification at what had been said.

After some general discussion by others present the secretary made further announcements and the Department adjourned to two p.m. the next day.

At the beginning of the Friday afternoon session there was again some delay through the absence of the vice-president, and finally the secretary again took the chair and went forward with the business.

By motion a committee on nominations was appointed, with J. I. Wyer, librarian of the University of Nebraska, as chairman. This committee was instructed to report before the close of the session.

The first address of the afternoon was by J. M. Greenwood, Superintendent of Schools, Kansas City, Mo., on "What may the school properly demand of the library?" and was interesting in a general way; but it has to be confessed that however satisfactory it may have been to the teachers present the librarians failed to hear the concrete answer to the question for which they had been hoping.

The second and last paper on the program was by Miss Agnes Robertson, Superintendent of Schools, Cherokee, Iowa. Her subject was "School libraries in the rural districts," and was listened to with earnest interest, but unfortunately was not distinctly heard. This was in no small measure due to the fact that the acoustic qualities of the room were not good. As before stated, the

meetings of the Department were held in the general reading room of the library of the university. As a matter of course the room was not designed for the purpose to which it was assigned on this occasion—because of the very unusual demand then being made for places of meeting.

The committee on nominations reported unanimously in favor of continuing the present officers for another year in their respective positions. This provoked a protest from the secretary, but her objections were overborne after a time. She did not yield, however, without having sounded an earnest warning to the effect that it is high time that the Department should justify its existence by a higher type of activity than has hitherto been manifest.

The report of the committee on nominations was then accepted and the nominees were declared elected. After some further announcements the meeting of the Department was declared adjourned.

The library workers present had been invited by the Minnesota Library Association on behalf of the trustees of the Minneapolis Public Library to enjoy a boat ride and picnic supper on the river. The invitation was most joyously accepted by a goodly number, and a delightful evening is stamped upon the memory of all who were there.

THE DOCUMENT CHECK LISTS OF THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY.*

For the past three years the New York Public Library has been printing in its monthly *Bulletin* lists of parts of its collection of public documents. The first list dealt with the documents of the First and Second Congresses of the United States, and appeared in the *Bulletin* for November, 1899. The long list of "works relating to the State of New York," begun in the number for May, 1900, contained many entries of provincial, state, and other documents; and later lists have recorded the documents relating to the New York boundaries, other state boundaries, and municipal and institutional documents of New York and Brooklyn. The *Bulletin* for December, 1901, contained a check list of foreign government documents on finance contained in the library; and this is supplemented in the current (August) issue by three lists of American public documents dealing with finance—federal, state, and municipal—covering 40 pages. This is a notable contribution

* Check list of American federal documents relating to finance in the New York Public Library; Check list of United States state documents . . . relating to finance; Check list of American municipal official documents relating to finance. (In New York Public Library *Bulletin*, August, 1902, 6:8, p. 287-327.)

to the bibliography of public documents, especially in its illustration of practical methods of arrangement and form of entry for material that is full of perplexities and variations. Like the previous lists, it is the work of Miss Adelaide R. Hasse, chief of the Document Department.

The check list of federal documents, which is given first place, deals only with collections or compilations of government documents relating to finance and with serial documents, as annual, quarterly or monthly reports. It is prefaced by explanatory references to the various official public document indexes and catalogs that give clue to separate reports and to material included in the bound sets of Congressional collected documents. The Continental Congress is represented by two entries; then follow documents of the Federal Congress, covering first collected works with subclasses, as Currency and revenue, Internal revenue, Loans, Tariff; then serial periodical reports, classed under the officer, bureau or division issuing same. Careful annotations give record of the establishment or historical development of each office or bureau, and register changes or special characteristics of the various issues. The information given in these annotations is of much value, forming often an historical summary of the office in question. The list of state documents is alphabetic by states, documents being recorded in two classes, as Periodical and Non-periodical. Entries are given in chronological order; and there are frequent annotations. For the municipal documents alphabetic order by cities is followed, and naturally there is no division of reports.

The methods of entry adopted for the list will repay study on the part of catalogers. The variations of form found in document material are indeed legion. There are gaps in series, constant changes of title, additions or omissions in text, and manifold perplexities of numbering; but Miss Hasse has managed to give varying data in the most compact way. For reports continuously numbered with no change in fiscal year, inclusive numbers are bracketed in title and inclusive dates are given; changes of fiscal year are indicated in dates and in brief notes; for changes in title the current title is bracketed, and all changes are collated in successive title entries, following the German custom. This method also elucidates successive changes in title, numbering, and date. Many of the entries are analytical, referring to reports bound up in collections of city documents and like annual volumes. The methods worked out are clear and effective, and the list sets an excellent model for like work elsewhere. While these lists record only material to be found in a single library, and are mainly intended as a means of indicating and filling gaps in that library's collection, their publication is a bibliographical service of no small value.

NOTES ON SPANISH BIBLIOGRAPHY.

An interesting sketch of Spanish bibliography and librarianship, by Konrad Haebler, forms the opening paper in the recent volume "Sammlung bibliothekswissenschaftlicher Arbeiten," edited by Dr. Karl Dziatzko. In this paper Dr. Haebler deals exclusively with the records of current Spanish literature. Of this there appears to be no one complete record, and it is doubtful whether even the periodicals that attempt to keep track of recent Spanish literature succeed in giving a complete bibliography. There is the *Boletín de la librería española*, published for nearly thirty years by the publishing house of Mariano Murillo. It is a monthly publication and does not claim to give the title of any book that has not been sent to the editor. But it records most of the issues of the Madrid publishers and of those of the Castilian provinces in general. Especially is scientific literature well represented, and the entries are quite full, giving title, publisher, size and price. But of the publications of the provincial book trade, even of that of Barcelona, the second largest literary center of Spain, it gives no information. This is the case also with *Bibliografía española*, which was first issued in 1901 as the organ of the newly founded association of booksellers. The members of the association are mostly Madrid firms, and the *Bibliografía* lists as yet mainly Madrid publications. Catalonia and Barcelona are not at all represented. This province, however, has its own bibliographical journal in *Revista bibliográfica catalana*, published since 1901 by the publishing firm *L'Avenç* (Progress) in Barcelona. This *Revista* is more than a mere list of current publications, it is a real bibliographical journal, and its first number contained among other material a complete list of all periodicals and newspapers that are or have been issued in the Catalan tongue, with editor and duration of publication.

Besides these trade periodicals there are a few literary and scientific periodicals that give lists of recent literature: among these Dr. Haebler mentions especially *Revista crítica de historia y literatura españolas, portuguesas y hispano-americanas*, edited for many years by Professor Rafael Altamira. Since his removal to Oviedo, however, some years ago, the character of the *Revista* has deteriorated considerably. Two French publications devoted to Spanish literature are also mentioned: *Revue hispanique* (Paris), and *Bulletin hispanique* (Toulouse).

One of the greatest difficulties in the way of a complete record of current Spanish literature is the fact that so many of the most important scientific works, and nearly always the works of unknown authors, whether in science or belles lettres, are published by the authors and are not regularly in the trade.

Besides these notes on current Spanish

bibliography. Dr. Haebler gives some information as to the situation of librarians. In the latter part of the '70's the *Cuerpo facultativo de bibliotecas, archivos y museos* was founded, combining under the authority of the department of educational affairs all the institutions of the above mentioned character and their personnel. The *Cuerpo* regulates appointments, promotions and salaries, and has instituted special examinations, to be taken not only by new aspirants, but also by such of the old appointees as may choose to do so. Most of the younger men particularly did take these examinations, and those who did not were sooner or later superseded. Thus, the library service soon came to consist nearly exclusively of young men, but the salaries remain exceedingly low, and the assistants in the lower grades cannot live on their salaries, but earn additional income as teachers, journalists, etc. Quite often a library in a provincial town has for librarian a local booklover, who might not need the additional slight income, but accepts the office on account of his interest in bibliographical matters; he is usually interested in some one branch of literature, and favors that one to the exclusion of the others. It even happens that the book-collector uses the treasures intrusted to his care to enrich his own library.

AKSEL G. S. JOSEPHSON.

THE IOWA MASONIC LIBRARY.

THE average stranger visiting Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is unprepared to learn that it contains an institution which has no counterpart in the world. This institution bears the name of The Iowa Masonic Library and is the only known Masonic library possessing a permanent structure erected for this specific purpose. It is the conception of one man, who gave it his ardent labors for half a century, and was permitted to see it enter upon its wide career of usefulness.

In that multitude of men who as pioneers have laid the foundations of the west, perhaps the record of none shines with brighter light than that of Theodore S. Parvin. Born in New Jersey, in 1817, a college and law school graduate in Ohio, going to Iowa as secretary to Territorial Governor Lucas, influential in securing a congressional appropriation of \$5000 for the library of the embryo state, becoming its first librarian, for a score of years filling various legal offices of distinction, for a term of years occupying two or more chairs in the state university, and for the last 58 years of his life secretary of the Grand Lodge of Iowa Masons, his deepest sympathies and untiring efforts were given to the intellectual and moral upbuilding of his adopted state. But these words are anticipatory, for it is his life as a Mason with which we are now chiefly concerned.

It was in the early forties that young Parvin, imbued with a desire for the increase of his own and others' knowledge of the history and workings of the craft of Masonry, conceived the idea of establishing a library representing this special purpose. Its life began in a collection from personal friends of five dollars in 1844, which was spent on Masonic literature. The idea expanded in the founder's mind; it became clear to him that generous provision must be made. The following year at the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge, Mr. Parvin brought up the subject of establishing a Masonic library, when his persistence was recognized by the appropriation of the munificent sum of five dollars. A beginning had been made; a foundation laid.

Space forbids me to dwell in detail upon the labors of the ensuing two score years. Mr. Parvin through the awakened assistance of friends, and by unwearied correspondence, gathered his treasures from all parts of the world, till the time came in 1883 when the Grand Lodge of Iowa, surprised at the richness of the collection, voted \$20,000 for a building fund. This sum, supplemented by a gift of a building lot and the sum of \$10,000 from the citizens of Cedar Rapids—in generous competition with other cities of the state—furnished the home of this library. Into this new and beautiful building were moved the accumulations of 40 years. The larger part of the building, strictly fire-proof, was designed and is used for the library and museum, while the front portion is devoted to a reception room, tastefully decorated, and offices and safety vaults for the grand master and grand secretary.

Designed, primarily, for the benefit of the Masonic order, the breadth of the founder's plans included the enlightenment of the neighborhood, the state, the country and the world. In the museum department the collection, beginning with a few Masonic curios, has grown till it now embraces a great number of Masonic medals, commandery badges, autograph letters of prominent Masons, many portraits, old and rare engravings, Indian relics, and many thousands of minerals, geological and archaeological specimens, all gifts from Masonic and other friends.

In the library, eight large cases are devoted to the Iowa department. Besides the store of county histories, directories, reports, programs and catalogs, here are copies of every volume thus far obtainable written upon Iowa or by Iowa authors. The general department contains a varied collection of works of art, architecture, mythology, Egypt, Bible and oriental lands, Crusades, Templary and chivalry, and is rich in old works on the forms and religious ceremonies of different ages.

In the basement are rooms, originally designed for storage, occupied by the reference department, with over 5000 volumes. Here are the files of Iowa and Eastern newspapers, complete sets of all the leading American

periodicals, partial sets of many English ones, modern works of reference in art, biography, history, and literature. These are in constant use by the townspeople, and students in Cornell college and the state university, 15 and 25 miles distant.

The semi-Masonic department is particularly strong in its collection of reports and publications issued by the various fraternal societies of this country and the world; this includes the proceedings of over 100 national bodies—all in fact that are known. There are also numerous works bearing on the early secret societies of the Revolution, army and navy, clubs and club life, and volumes pertaining to the history of the Nestorians, Dervishes, Druids, Thugs, Assassins, the English and the Dutch and Flemish guilds of the Middle Ages.

Naturally the Masonic department surpasses all others in size, rarity, and richness. From all over the world come nearly four score Masonic periodicals, their past issues being represented by 2500 bound volumes. The volumes of the proceedings of grand lodges, chapters, commanderies and other Masonic bodies constitute a library in themselves. There is also a large collection of newspaper clippings, sermons and pamphlets. English, French, German and even Central India (translated) Masonic writings are in evidence. Among the many rare sets and volumes, are the "Bower's collection" illustrative of the history of Freemasonry in France, Germany, and England; and the "Original constitution of Freemasonry," printed in London, in 1722, from a manuscript 500 years old.

The library is sustained by an annual per capita tax of 10 c. levied by the Grand Lodge of Iowa upon the nearly 30,000 members under their jurisdiction. After providing for current expenses, about a third of this appropriation is available for library use. One of the pressing needs is of a complete catalog of the museum, and of the nearly 5000 pamphlets and 20,000 volumes of the library. Still more urgent is the need of enlarged space; the building, supposed in 1884 to be ample for three score years' use, is filled to repletion in less than a third of that time. Fortunately the necessity of enlargement can be met by the purchase of adjoining lots and the building of an annex. It is proposed to raise \$50,000 for this and other needs, and Mr. Newton R. Parvin, long-time deputy and the present grand secretary and librarian, upon whom the mantle of his father seems to have fallen, is energetically engaged in this special work.

The best remains to be told. This enterprise of humble beginnings has in its half century of life become the helper of Eastern Iowa, and, in its distinctive specialty, has taken a leading position in the world. Quite unknown to libraries in general is the fact that

its owners are glad to share its peculiar wealth with all who would use it. Masonic though it may be, a hearty welcome awaits every visitor. With the exception of a few volumes, every book upon the shelves may be freely used. Already the library is a Mecca to the student of the esoteric. In addition, its volumes are freely loaned to individuals, libraries, and lodges in any part of the United States, on the simple conditions of assured safety and assumed expense. Occasionally insurance is required when some rare works are forwarded. This plan of liberal loaning has been pursued for years and thus far not a book has been lost. W. P. KIMBALL.

American Library Association.

President: Dr. J. K. Hosmer, Public Library, Minneapolis, Minn.

Secretary: F. W. Faxon, 108 Glenway st., Dorchester, Mass.

Treasurer: G. M. Jones, Public Library, Salem, Mass.

PROCEEDINGS, 1902.

The volume of Proceedings of the Boston and Magnolia Conference was issued and mailed to members the first week in September. It is larger than any previous issue, covering 277 pages, and including a special index. Copies remaining may be secured at \$1 each on application to the A. L. A. Publishing Board, 10½ Beacon street, Boston.

REPORT OF TRUSTEES' SECTION MEETING.

In accordance with a vote passed at the meeting of the Trustees' Section, held in connection with the Boston and Magnolia Conference, the proceedings of that section, as given in the volume of Conference proceedings, will be reprinted in pamphlet form for distribution among library trustees. The edition of the reprint is limited, and librarians who do not receive it, and who desire to bring it to the attention of their trustees, should make application for it to the A. L. A. Publishing Board, 10½ Beacon street, Boston.

A. L. A. COMMITTEE ON RELATIONS WITH THE BOOK TRADE.

This committee held a special meeting at the office of the chairman, in the New York Mercantile Library, on Saturday, Sept. 6. There was a full attendance, and the situation regarding the discount granted to libraries by the American Publishers' Association was fully discussed. While no report for publication has been made, it may be said that the committee is hopeful of securing more satisfactory arrangements. The committee consists of W. T. Peoples, chairman; Henry J. Carr, Henry L. Elmendorf, John Thomson, Hiller C. Wellman.

State Library Commissions.

MARYLAND. STATE LIBRARY COMMISSIONS.

At the 1902 meeting of the Maryland General Assembly two library commission bills were passed, chapter 247 and chapter 367 of the Laws of Maryland, 1902.

The commission noted in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* of August (p. 775) is the one created under chapter 247. This commission is popularly known as the travelling library commission, as it is to organize and conduct travelling libraries throughout the state as soon as practicable. The commission created under chapter 367 is often referred to as a public library commission. It repeals and reenacts with amendments the bill passed in 1898, known as the Bomberger bill. The last sentence of the next to the last section of this bill limits its application to only nine of the 23 counties of the state. The bill places the control of public libraries established under it virtually in the hands of the county commissioners. It is designed especially for the establishment of county libraries. The bill also provides for the creation of a library commission of five members to give advice and counsel relative to free libraries. A sum not exceeding \$1000 annually is appropriated for clerical assistance. The members of this commission are T. J. C. Williams, Baltimore; Edward W. Mealey, Hagerstown; John G. Mills, Cambridge, and D. F. McMullen, of Allegany county, with one vacancy. This commission organized at Hagerstown, on Aug. 21, by the election of Mr. Edward W. Mealey as president, and Miss Mary L. Titcomb, of the Washington County Free Library, Hagerstown, as secretary. The secretary is not, however, a member of the commission. The *Baltimore Sun* of July 29 and Aug. 24 contained editorials on the work of these two commissions.

The commission under chapter 247 organized in Baltimore on Aug. 28 by the election of M. Bates Stephens, president, and Bernard C. Steiner, secretary. This commission proposes to expend nearly all the money it receives from the state in establishing travelling libraries.

WISCONSIN FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION: F. A. Hutchins, secretary, Madison.

On Saturday afternoon, Aug. 30, the representatives of the state library commissions of Nebraska, Minnesota, Iowa, Indiana, Wisconsin and the Illinois Library Association, held an informal meeting at the office of the Wisconsin library commission. A. H. Hopkins, president of the Illinois Library Association, explained the plan proposed by his association to do work in lieu of a commission, the idea being to secure funds to employ a secretary who should devote his entire time to the work. Lines of co-operative work other than those now carried on were informally discussed and taken under advisement.

State Library Associations.

CALIFORNIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Charles E. Greene, Carnegie Library, Oakland.

Secretary: R. E. Cowan, 829 Mission st., San Francisco.

Treasurer: F. B. Graves, Public Library, Alameda.

The regular quarterly meeting of the association was held at the Carnegie Library of Oakland, on Aug. 1. The subjects presented were: "Net prices of books," by Melvin G. Dodge, of Leland Stanford University Library; "Library influence," by W. R. Davis; and "The distribution of catalog cards by the Library of Congress," by Miss Florence B. Whittier.

KEYSTONE STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Edwin H. Anderson, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Secretary-Treasurer: Robert P. Bliss, Crozier Theological Seminary, Chester, Pa.

The 2d annual meeting of the association will be held in Williamsport, Oct. 17 and 18.

MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: H. M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

Secretary: Mrs. M. C. Upleger, Mt. Clemens.

Treasurer: Mrs. M. F. Jewell, Public Library, Adrian.

The 12th annual meeting of the association will be held in Detroit, Oct. 11 and 12.

NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Miss Edith Tobitt, Public Library, Omaha.

Secretary: Miss Clara Mullikin, Public Library, Lincoln.

Treasurer: Miss Margaret O'Brien, Public Library, Omaha.

The annual meeting of the association will be held in Omaha, Oct. 16 and 17.

TEXAS STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: W. L. Prather, University of Texas, Austin.

Secretary: Benjamin Wyche, University of Texas Library, Austin.

Treasurer: A. C. Read, Public Library, El Paso.

The *University Record*, published by the University of Texas, gives in its July number a report of the recent organization meeting of the Texas State Library Association, by the secretary. Mr. Wyche adds:

"In addition to the various plans of which the record of this meeting is but suggestive, it is apparent that the accomplishment of the following specific objects will receive the best efforts of the association.

- (1) A state library commission.
- (2) The establishment of a system of free travelling libraries.
- (3) The enlargement and proper recognition of the state library.

(4) The gathering and distributing of library information by a committee from the association, serving until a library commission is secured."

WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: P. V. Lawson, Menasha Public Library.

Secretary: Miss Emily Turner, Public Library, Oshkosh.

Treasurer: Miss Ellen D. Biscoe, Public Library, Eau Claire.

A business meeting of the Wisconsin Library Association was held on Thursday, Aug. 29. The foregoing officers were elected, with Miss Julia E. Elliott, of the Marinette Public Library, as vice-president.

Library Schools and Training Classes.

DREXEL INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

Miss Emily M. Haynes, class of '02, has been appointed librarian of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Miss Louise Hunt, class of '01, passed the Civil Service examination, and has been appointed to a position in the Office of the Superintendent of Documents.

Miss Alice Cary Atwood, class of '02, has been engaged as cataloger at the Arnold Arboretum.

The name of Miss Mary B. Snyder should have been included in the list of graduates printed in August L. J.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SUMMER SCHOOL OF LIBRARY SCIENCE.

The summer sessions of the University of California are attracting, year by year, an increasing number of students and professors who assemble from all over the country to find in the beautiful location of the university and the mild climate of Berkeley an ideal place for summer work and recreation. Under these favorable auspices was given the first course in technical instruction ever offered to the librarians of the Pacific coast; and the 23 members of the library school, although closely occupied in their work-room (the large, attractive art gallery of the university library), gained much in enthusiasm and general educational impulses from their contact with the six weeks' life of this summer university that enrolled over 800 students among its various courses of study.

The library work was modeled as closely as possible upon that given at the summer session of the New York State Library School, and the entire time of the director and an assistant, Miss Florence B. Whittier (N. Y. State Library School, class of 1902), was devoted to the instruction in cataloging, classification and other special and general subjects of library economy, while an exceedingly valuable course in reference and bibliography was

given by Mr. Rowell, librarian of the university. The program announced in all 72 lectures, delivered chiefly by the faculty of the library school, although members of local library and educational circles exhibited cordial practical interest in the school by consenting to give lectures on various themes connected with the work of the class.

A paper on classification was given by Mr. Dodge, librarian of the Leland Stanford Jr. University library; Mr. F. J. Feggart, librarian of the Mechanics' Institute, San Francisco, gave an able appreciation of the work of the ancient and mediæval pioneers in the profession; Mr. George T. Clark, librarian of the San Francisco Free Public Library, spoke from long experience and with much practical advice on the selection of books, and Mr. C. S. Greene, librarian of the Oakland Free Public Library, gave two lectures on library legislation, embodying the results of careful study of the history of other states, and a thorough sifting of local California statutes. Mr. W. P. Kimball told of library conditions in the smaller cities and towns of the state, with which he has a wide acquaintance, and Miss Patch, of the California Federation of Woman's Clubs, described the progressive work now being done by that organization for the maintenance of traveling libraries, and the creation of library interests in every community reached by the federation.

The faculty of other departments of the university summer session were well represented on the library school program. Professor K. C. Babcock, of the history department of the University of California, gave an instructive talk on the use of public documents; Professor Josiah Royce, of Harvard, explained President Eliot's proposition as to the housing of dead books, but maintained stoutly that no book ever outlived its usefulness and merited the oblivion of a charnel-stack. Recollections of experiences in the library of the University of Michigan formed the interesting theme of Professor F. N. Scott, and Professor H. Morse Stephens gave library reminiscences as student or librarian in England, France and the United States. Professor Stephens also gave careful attention to the suggestion that the Extension Department of the University of California, now under his charge, might, at no distant day, conduct library institutes as a part of its regular instruction.

The same friendly spirit greeted the class on the occasion of every visit to neighboring libraries, and one of the pleasantest episodes of the session was the hospitality extended to the school by Mr. Clark and his staff, and the delightful luncheon served by them in the San Francisco Free Public Library. The California Library Association hastened its mid-summer meeting to fall within the dates of the school and made the students particularly welcome, at that time, to the beautiful new Carnegie building of the Oakland Free Public Library.

To every opportunity thus offered the stu-

dents responded with enthusiasm, devoting generally their entire vacations to the confining exactions of lectures and laboratory work, and sometimes paying their own substitutes when vacations were too short and trustees unwilling to extend them. They made many inquiries as to the probability of the course being repeated, and several expressed the hope that alternate courses of elementary and advanced library science might become a permanent feature of the summer session of the University of California.

List of Students.

- *Jean Dawson Bird, asst. Fresno (Cal.) Free Library.
- Charlotte A. Baker, librarian A. and M. A. College of New Mexico, Mesilla, N. M.
- *Mary Barmby, librarian San Jose (Cal.) Free Public Library.
- Sarah Everett Bedinger, librarian Beale Memorial Library, Bakersfield, Cal.
- Florence Elizabeth Browne, asst. Oakland (Cal.) Free Public Library.
- *Shirley Mansfield Charles, asst. Leland Stanford jr. University.
- Bradbury Cilley, president Board of Library Trustees, Covina, Cal.
- *William Edgar Clark, librarian San Francisco Y. M. C. A.
- *Anna Creaner, asst. Stockton (Cal.) Free Public Library.
- *Edith Putnam Dart, ex-apprentice Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.
- *Mrs. Mary Dranga Graebe, asst. Leland Stanford jr. University Library.
- *Mary Anne Hadden, librarian Palo Alto (Cal.) Public Library.
- *Martha Elizabeth Haven, asst. Leland Stanford jr. University Library.
- *Mary Lyle Inness, librarian Dillon (Mont.) Public Library.
- Mrs. Almeda N. Jay, librarian Grand Junction (Col.) Public Library.
- Elizabeth Kelley, asst. San Jose (Cal.) Free Public Library.
- *Helen Lathrop, asst. Leland Stanford jr. University Library.
- *Hattie M. Mann, asst. librarian Stockton (Cal.) Free Public Library.
- *Esther Nelson, asst. University of Utah Library, Salt Lake City.
- *Clara Northrup, asst. Portland (Ore.) Public Library.
- Frances Doremus Patterson, asst. Leland Stanford jr. University Library.
- Ruth Royce, librarian State Normal School, San Jose, Cal.
- *Susan Teegarden Smith, librarian State Normal School, Chico, Cal.
- *Mabel Weed, asst. Berkeley (Cal.) Public Library.

The sixteen students starred took the full course and the final examination, all of them passing with credit, and receiving a certificate from the university.

MARY FLOYD WILLIAMS, *Director.*

THE WISCONSIN SUMMER SCHOOL OF LIBRARY SCIENCE.

The need of some form of library training for those who cannot afford to attend the longer terms at the regular library schools was long recognized in Wisconsin. Such a course was not made possible, however, until the summer of 1895, when, through the generosity of the Hon. J. H. Stout, a Summer School of Library Science was established under the direction of Miss Katharine L. Sharp, then in charge of the Department of Library Science at the Armour Institute, Chicago. Four persons attended the course of four weeks' duration. The following year the session was extended to six weeks with an attendance of twenty-five students, its expenses being again paid by Mr. Stout, a member of the Wisconsin Library Commission. During the third year, the school became self-supporting and the course is now of eight weeks' duration. The eighth annual session, just closed, has been so remarkably successful that an account of the work done should prove of interest.

The present head of the school, Miss Cornelia Marvin, library instructor of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, spends a large part of each year in the field helping librarians to solve difficult problems, coming in touch with all phases of practical library work, thus enabling her to plan a course particularly adapted to the needs of all librarians. Miss Marvin is also a woman of practical library experience, having been at the head of one of the model libraries of the West, at Oak Park, Illinois, after having graduated from a library course at Armour Institute, Chicago. All the lecturers are persons of practical experience also, whose work in their respective lines qualifies them to speak with authority. The requirements of the small library are kept constantly in mind in the instruction given, such as the need for economy in service, money and time. The school has been under the same head for the past six years, thus bringing to bear the experience gained during each successive year upon its policy. The extraordinary facilities offered through the location of the school should not be overlooked. Through the courtesy of the State Historical Society, the school is housed in its magnificent new building, a noble type of the best in modern library architecture. Its collection is at the disposal of the students. This fine type of a reference library is supplemented by the university library, in which college problems are happily solved; while the free public library which is rapidly being improved, with its fine children's room, its school duplicate collections, its library stations, etc., is an object lesson to those employed in similar institutions. The office of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission furnishes a fourth type of library endeavor, with its travelling library collections, at the same time giving opportunity to study the broad-

est side of library activity in the assistance given in the organization and management of all forms of libraries. A library supply house, a book printing office and a fine bindery are also visited by the students, where the various forms of work are explained. In the library school rooms is found a library of carefully selected volumes, containing books difficult to catalog and classify and to give experience in as wide range of classification as possible. The library contains the best books for small libraries, for young and old, and the students become familiar with their character through the actual work done with them. The professors of the State University give special lectures of great value, dealing with the books of their respective lines of work; and every effort is made to familiarize the students with as wide a knowledge of the best books of literature as the time will admit.

Miss Julia Elliott, librarian at Marinette, Wisconsin, a former student at the library school of the University of Illinois, and who made a reputation for accuracy in connection with the Cumulative Index of the Cleveland Public Library, assisted this year in the elementary course, gave instruction in accession, classification, loan, etc. Her work was especially valuable as she came from one of the libraries of the state which she had recently reorganized. The elementary course was intended especially for Wisconsin librarians who have charge of small libraries. Only those are received, it should be noted, who have had experience in library work, hold library positions or are under appointment to such places. Applicants from other states are taken if the limit of twenty students is not filled by Wisconsin librarians. While no special educational qualification is stated, a high grade of students is desired, and the commission has reserved the right to refuse applicants whose education seems defective, or who, in its judgment, are otherwise unqualified for library work. Personal visits are usually made by officers of the commission in judging applications; and only those who are earnest in their work are accepted.

The elementary course followed the lines of the course given for the past seven years, but with the advantage of improved tools and facilities. Miss Marvin has been collecting a library for summer school use during the past two years. It has been selected with two definite purposes in mind, first, to afford proper technical drill, and second, to familiarize the student with the best book for the small library. The books which have been chosen because they present difficulties in cataloging and classification, are not impossible, out-of-the-way books, but such as are usually found in libraries. The instruction is planned with the small library constantly in mind, as has been stated, its need of economy in time and money. Special lectures were given in this course by Miss Mary E. Dousman of the Milwaukee Public Library, Miss

Ahern of *Public Libraries*, and by Miss L. E. Stearns and Mr. F. A. Hutchins of the Wisconsin Commission.

The supplementary course, conducted also by Miss Marvin and offered for the first time this year, was designed for students of previous classes in the summer school who had had experience and desired to raise the standard of work done in their libraries. Eighteen students were in attendance. Preliminary circulars were sent out asking what work was most needed, and brought definite answers which helped materially in planning the course. It was decided to devote the 1902 session to the following subjects: 1, Cataloging and classification; 2, Editions and practical book buying; 3, Subject bibliography; 4, Children's work; 5, Wisconsin documents; 6, Administration and general library economy.

1. *Cataloging*: A part of every day was given to instruction and practice work in dictionary cataloging, first making a rapid review of the elementary work, and later taking up advanced work based, in part, upon the lists of books presenting most difficulties sent in by the students in response to the circular. One of the best features of this work was the consideration given to simplifying forms for small libraries. This was done in a definite and practical way by indicating on the cards the eliminations best to make, and under subject headings tracing closer and fuller analysis necessary for the small library because of the limited amount of material on each subject to be found in it. Classification was also taken up in connection with the study of subject headings, always including books indicated by the students as especially difficult.

2. *Editions*: One week was given to the study of editions, a knowledge of which is certainly most necessary in practical book buying, but a knowledge in which even many trained librarians seem singularly lacking. Consideration was given to the editions most suitable for the small library starting with limited funds and the best permanent editions for libraries not so limited. This study included a review of the cheap series of non-copyright books, comparing the paper, print, binding and general make-up of the book, as well as the cost price, discounts and reliability of the series. Attention was given to the best library editions of standard authors and classics, with due regard to the best translations of foreign literature; also to the cheap series of children's books, and to the fine illustrated editions. The actual examination of the books considered added much to the advantage as well as the interest and pleasure of this subject.

3. *Subject bibliography*: Practical talks were given by professors of the University of Wisconsin on the basis of selection of books on their respective subjects, the standing of the authors most commonly quoted,

giving short lists with comments, indicating books to be avoided as well as those best suited for purchase. The subjects covered were sociology, insurance, transportation, political economy, physics, American history, the Bible, education, philosophy, contemporary German literature. This was one of the most interesting and instructive features of the course, because the subjects treated were those on which librarians need most help and for sections of the library which now need building up. Some of the lists will be published in the fall numbers of the Bibliography Bulletin by the Wisconsin Commission.

4. *Children's work:* In this course no time was given to preliminary arguments for or against work with children, but the problems which librarians meet or attempt to meet were approached directly. In the main the seminar method was employed. The director drew out the results of every bit of experience the students had to combine with the results gained not only from her own broader experience, but from study of methods in the libraries of this country where the most successful work with children has been done. The subjects of this practical study were: library work with grades, outlining course for pupils, and reference work in library; the same for the high school, with more extensive reference work, and talks on bibliography; school duplicate collections, their use, selection, instalment and management; library leagues and clubs; the story hour. Study was made of such aids as graded and annotated lists, outlines of the grade work in Wisconsin schools being given to the students, upon which were based short lists made for the grades, both for general reading and on special subjects. Modifications recommended for cataloging and classifying children's books were discussed and attention was given to reference books for children, and to the use of pictures in connection with reference work. Opportunity was given for the careful examination of a large number of children's books collected by the commission, in connection with which suggestions were made regarding the comparative value of books on the same subject. Of especial value was a comparative study of the books on mythology, folklore and legends, with notes made by Miss Genevieve Mills, of Madison. Miss Stearns gave a lecture on books for girls accompanied by a list of books which she recommended. Miss Dousman gave five lectures on the following subjects: furniture and equipment for the children's room; administration of the children's room; government and discipline and relations with children; books that are read and some that are not; children's rooms in American libraries.

5. *State documents:* Four lectures on the value, use, and care of state, especially Wisconsin, documents, were given by Mr. Charles McCarthy of the Wisconsin Commission. Attention was called to the principal indexes and

their use, also the necessity and value of collecting municipal documents was urged.

6. *Administration:* One hour per day for a week was devoted to seminars on subjects found to be of especial interest to the librarians in attendance, such as supplies, loan system, re-registration, new method of record substituting the accession book, binding, renting collections, selection of fiction, new reference books, and librarians' aids. Special lectures were given by Miss Stearns on "The library beautiful" and by Miss Ahern on "Librarians," "Library associations" and "The business of being a librarian."

The first class organized for the study of public documents closed its three weeks' course in Madison, Wisconsin, on Aug. 27. The course was made possible through the generosity of the late J. D. Witter, Grand Rapids, Wis., who bequeathed a sum of money for this purpose. The course was conducted under the auspices of the Wisconsin Summer Library School by Miss A. R. Hasse, chief of the Document Department, New York Public Library. The members of the class, numbering 47, came from 13 different states, and represented many different kinds of libraries. There were representatives from five state university libraries, from three college libraries, from four high school and normal school libraries, from nineteen public libraries, from two library commissions, from two historical society libraries, and two students attended who were not in library work. Of the libraries represented 20 were depository libraries, and 14 non-depository libraries.

The undertaking being somewhat in the nature of an experiment and the variety of experience existing among so large a number of students, necessitated a more general character of work, than a smaller, more evenly experienced class would have required. The greatest need appeared to be for information concerning the distribution and arrangement of United States federal documents, and for an opportunity to make a purposeful acquaintance with them. Instruction was given by lectures supplemented with practice work, for which the document collection of the Wisconsin Historical Society furnished ample opportunity. One lecture was given on document catalogs and indexes, which was followed by a series of lectures reviewing the various publishing bodies of the federal government, taking up the distribution, character, general form of catalog entry of each serial publication of each department and bureau in turn. Irregularities of publication were especially described, and formulas for meeting them suggested. The practice or reference work was confined to the preparation of selected lists on selected subjects, resulting in a practical acquaintance both with the documents and with the indexes to the documents.

Upon the conclusion of the Summer Library School, the students attended the Western

Library Meeting, thus having opportunity to meet with representative librarians, trustees, architects, publishers, booksellers, and other friends and patrons of the book; and to hear helpful discussion on the vital library questions of the day.

The social side of the school was not neglected. Opportunity was given for acquaintanceship by informal gatherings at the Library School House, where a number of the students lived during the course. Drives, trolley rides, picnics, boating, steamer trips, etc., helped to give the students recreation in connection with their work.

That the Wisconsin Summer School is not, as was feared, a harmful short cut to superficial training is shown by the fact that 18 former students returned this year for further work. The summer school has, indeed, proved an active and living factor in the promotion of library interests in Wisconsin, and its permanency is especially essential to the growth and development of the smaller libraries, whose limited facilities totally preclude the possibility of furnishing to their librarians longer courses in the regular library schools. New libraries must largely depend for their administration upon the local, inexperienced applicant. An isolated public library loses most of its opportunities for good through ignorance of methods and facts that may be comparatively easily learned. Through attendance at the summer school many points dealing with administration are gained, and, best of all, the students become imbued with the "library spirit" and inspiration to pursue, independently, definite plans for self education in their chosen profession along lines which have received the endorsement of efficient and progressive librarians. As one student has said, "A new spirit was introduced into my work, new pleasure and interest — interest? Let me say rather enthusiasm. The profession of librarianship has a significance and life I never realized before."

Library Economy and History.

GENERAL.

DANA, J. C. Library problems; reprinted from *The Pedagogical Seminary*. 9:2, p. 169-179 [June]. 16 p. O.

A most suggestive review of the tendencies of library work, and a forecast of future development.

WELLMAN, Hiller C. What public libraries are doing for children. (In *Atlantic Monthly*, September, 1902. 90:402-409.)

LOCAL.

Alameda (Cal.) P. L. (23d rpt.—year ending May 31, 1902.) Added 1634; total 26,384. Issued, home use 123,547 (fict. 68,

561; juv. 27,882; magazines 5514.) New registration 1385; total membership 6243. Receipts \$10,077.17; expenses \$8270.44.

American Congregational Assoc. L., Boston. (49th rpt.—year ending May, 1902.) Added 7006 v., 553 pm.; total 50,245 v., 49,753 pm.

The unprecedented record of accessions is due to the purchase, through Quaritch, of the library of the late Bishop Stubbs, of Oxford, who died in May, 1901. This collection was first offered for sale in July, was secured in September, was received in December, and is already classified and arranged on the shelves. It contains 6350 v., only about 150 of which proved to be duplicates. The cost of the collection was £900. It will be, for the present, kept separate (with its catalog) from the general collection. The Stubbs library, it is pointed out, was gathered for use and not for show. "There are very few fine bindings, or incunabula, or books collected for their rarity alone. It is the working library of a working scholar, who was both a leading historian, and a high official in the Church of England. By reason of these two functions, the historical and the religious, he accumulated books in the very departments which form the two main features of our own library. Everything historical, and especially English history, is always welcome here; also everything that bears on religion, and in particular, books relating to the Church of England and its offshoots. Apart from the Stubbs collection, the books which give our library its prime importance bear on the controversies in the English Church; and among these there are probably as many on the Episcopal side as on the Congregational." Among the notable works in the collection are the Domesday book, in four volumes; Rymer's "Foedera," in 27 volumes; the Ordonnances des rois de France; Statutes of the Realm, Rolls of Parliament, Calendars of State Papers, Historical Mss. Reports, the Master of the Rolls series, many antiquarian publications, a fine collection of liturgies, many important religious works, and a fine series of transactions of learned societies. This single accession "enables the Congregational Library to render especial service to the student of English history, and strengthens it materially in all other departments."

Brookline (Mass.) P. L. (45th rpt.—year ending Jan. 31, 1902.) Added 4158; total 58,866. Issued, home use 126,881 (fict. 62%), an increase of 7.4-10% over the previous year. Receipts \$17,020.72; expenses \$16,953.24.

Much has been done toward the rounding out of the collection by noting gaps, as the reclassification of the collection has been carried on under Miss Robbins' direction. An accurate inventory of the library (the first in 30 years) will be made as soon as the classification is completed. Owing to the new system of "net" prices of books it is estimated that the cost of new books other than fiction

"has been at least 25 per cent. higher than formerly. This fact accounts for the smaller number of accessions in spite of a larger expenditure for books." 160 v. were added to the music collection, which had a circulation of 2085 v., or 13 per cent. more than in any previous year. An appropriation of at least \$100 is requested for the increase of this department.

There is given an interesting chart showing the variations in circulation since 1860. A suggestive feature is the close correspondence between appropriation and circulation. "An increase of appropriation has been followed in almost every instance by an increase of circulation, and a decrease of appropriation by a falling off in circulation. It is apparent also that the circulation has been increasing at a much faster rate than the number of volumes owned by the library." Most of this gain is secured from the schools and the children's room, and it is evident that many former borrowers now make use of private circulating libraries instead.

The school reference work carried on through the children's department is reviewed. 15,976 v. were circulated through the schools of which less than 25 per cent. were fiction. "5555 visits have been made by children to the school reference room, and 14,308 visits have been made to the children's reading room. The collection of books for use in the schools now numbers 2628 volumes, and the collection in the children's room embraces 981 volumes more. Eight sets of stereoscopic views, purchased on recommendation of the superintendent of schools, have been borrowed by teachers, and proved a valuable aid in the study of geography and history. The elementary talks on methods of using a library and on the principles of consulting indexes, encyclopædias, and the card catalog, have been given to all pupils in the eighth grammar grade. The most notable innovation was simple bibliographical work undertaken by pupils of one eighth grade and three ninth grade classes. Each pupil was assigned a topic in English or American history, and was sent to find and make a list of every reference—book, article, chapter, even paragraph or footnote—bearing on his subject to be found in the collection in the school reference room. Any one observing the process could hardly fail to appreciate the benefit to be gained from it in judgment, in thoroughness, and in knowledge and facility in dealing with books. This work, which was done out of school hours, appeared to be an agreeable task, for many of the pupils after sifting the school reference collection continued the search voluntarily in the main library."

Cleveland (O.) P. L. At a board meeting held on August 12, W. H. Brett was re-elected librarian for one year from December 1, with an increase of salary from \$3600 to \$4200, and two months' leave of absence.

Covington (Ky.) P. L. The state court of appeals on May 2 rendered a decision in the case of the Board of Education *vs.* the Public Library of Covington, previously noted in these columns (L. J., April, p. 198). The decision reversed the action of the Kenton circuit court, and was in favor of the board of education, ruling that "a tax levied and collected by the common council of a city for school purposes cannot be appropriated by act of the legislature to maintain a public library which is open to the pupils of the common schools only as a part of the general public and which is not under the control of the board of education or of the common schools."

The opinion of Judge Durelle reviews the case *in extenso*, and is strongly affirmative of the view that the library is a distinct educational institution, not a part of the school system. He says:

"It is not denied that a part of the school tax in cities of the second class may be used for school libraries, as an adjunct to and a part of the school system. Nor do we controvert the proposition that play grounds may be properly considered a part of the school system. What we decide is that the library provided for in the sections under consideration is *not* a part of the school system, but independent of it. It is no more an adjunct to it than a public park would be. Counsel for appellee concedes that 'it must be clearly understood that the library is a school institution, and that it is the city that comes to the aid of the school institution, and not the school coming to the aid of a merely municipal institution.' In our opinion, the statutes provide exactly the reverse of this contention. It is not a case of using a part of the school tax for what is undoubtedly a school purpose, and a part of the school system—as the kindergarten and the high school—but the appropriation of a part of the tax levied and collected for school purposes to an object which, however laudable it may be, is not of the schools, and should be otherwise and specifically provided for."

Drew Theological Seminary L., Madison, N. J. (8th rpt.—year ending June 1, 1902.) Added 5933 v., 4747 pm. Issued 14,043. Absolutely free access to the shelves is allowed, except to the Bible collection and the early printed books. Of the 180 students recorded, only two have failed to use the library. "The librarian is entirely dependent upon student help for assistance. If enough of it could be had, it would be satisfactory." In all, this help amounted to 350 hours, or the work of one man for 200 days. "The quality of our student help is very good."

Mr. Ayres says:

"There are problems of circulation in the Theological Library as in the Public Library. One of the problems of the Public Library is the undue circulation of fiction. There is not enough of fiction in the Theological Library to

make this approach even the appearance of a problem; in fact, there is not as much as there should be. The classic authors of English fiction should at least be represented. In place of this problem we have another equally serious. The undue and indiscriminate reading of sermons is just as detrimental to the preacher as the other may be to the layman. This habit appeals most to some of those who are trying to earn their way by preaching. They retire to "saints' rest," as the sermon alcove has been facetiously called, read a half dozen sermons on a given text and then proceed to stir them together, and the result is that they have nothing but hash to offer to their people. Hash usually has some meat in it, but not always of the best quality, nor great in quantity. How the people can take it without rebellion is hard to imagine. This may be the reason why some men fail to do the best work. They do not do the truest work. A careful word spoken at the right time has saved some from falling into the habit, but it is certain that there are others who desire to form the habit, if one can judge by indications."

Fairfield (Ct.) Memorial L. The cornerstone of the new library building was laid on July 31.

Fallington (Pa.) L. Co. The library celebrated its 100th anniversary on June 13. It is owned by 135 shareholders, many of whom are descendants of the original 35 members who established the library with 138 volumes a century ago. It now contains about 7000 books. The librarian, Miss Eliza Hance, has served continuously in that office for 25 years.

Galesburg (Ill.) F. P. L. The handsome \$50,000 Carnegie library building was dedicated on June 3 with elaborate exercises held in the Congregational Church.

General Theological L., Boston. The report of the librarian, as given in the Proceedings of the society for 1901-2, states that 321 free cards have been issued to the clergymen of Greater Boston, and that 154 distributing branches are now supplied from the library. Additions for the year numbered 1276 v.; the total now reaches over 20,000. The need of the proposed new stack building which would give a book capacity of 50,000 v. is urgent.

Guthrie (Oklahoma) Carnegie L. The cornerstone of the \$50,000 Carnegie library building was laid on the evening of July 1 with elaborate ceremonies, conducted under the auspices of the Guthrie Federation of Women's Clubs.

Haverhill (Mass.) P. L. (27th rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, 1901.) Added 3121; total (estimated) 70,000. Issued, home use 146,529 (fict. 110,093). New cards issued 1599; total cardholders 12,979. Receipts \$10,746.40; expenses \$10,629.22.

An interesting report, with numerous illustrations, and prefaced by a good portrait of the late librarian *emeritus*, Edward Capen. The present number of cardholders represents about one-third of the population. There are four branch library stations, and monthly parcels of books are sent to each public grammar school-room for distribution by the teachers. Ten travelling libraries of 50 v. each circulate among the 10 village union schools on the outskirts of the city. The total home circulation of 146,529 v. is about four volumes to each inhabitant.

"The most important event during the year was the subscription to the scheme by the Library of Congress for furnishing printed catalog cards. This necessitated a change in the catalog card from the small to the large standard size. New catalog cases were bought for both the main library and the Bradford branch. All new books are now cataloged with reference to the printed cards of the Library of Congress, and the cataloging progresses faster than formerly.

"One particularly popular feature of the past year was the purchase of the vocal scores of many of the comic operas of the day, as 'Robin Hood,' 'San Toy,' 'Miss Simplicity,' 'The Burgomaster,' and 'Florodora.' Many duplicates were bought to satisfy the demand, and the books were restricted in use to seven days."

Helena (Mont.) P. L. (16th rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, 1901.) Added 1784; total 30,529. Issued, home use 75,132 (fict. 59%). New cards issued 711; cards in use 6618. Receipts \$7373.43; expenses \$7160.93.

The issue of books to children formed 40 per cent. of the total circulation.

The library has a large collection of pictures mounted for school-room use. In most cases these have been cut from duplicate or old copies of the illustrated weeklies. The collection has been well used in the schools. Teachers are allowed to borrow 20 pictures at one time.

Lexington (Ky.) P. L. (3d rpt. — year ending April 10, 1902.) Added 1204; total 4250. Issued, home use 60,509 (fict. 88.34%). Registration 3684.

During the year a children's room was opened, containing 950 v. The registration for this room reached 520.

Library of Congress, Washington, D. C. The provision for opening the library on Sundays went into effect on Sunday, Sept. 14. The attendance was practically double the average weekday attendance. The hours of opening are from 2 to 10 p.m.; it is hoped next year to extend the provision of opening to apply to most of the legal holidays.

Lincoln, Neb. Carnegie L. The new library building was formally opened and trans-

ferred to the city on May 27. There was a large attendance at the afternoon exercises, which included addresses by Charles H. Gere, for 20 years president of the board; S. L. Geisthardt, president of the board; and Mayor Winnett. In the evening a public reception was held, with music, and addresses by Chancellor E. B. Andrews, and by Mrs. W. J. Bryan.

The main building is 68 x 104, with an extension of 20 x 43 for the stack, and 19 x 27 for the administration rooms, standing at the northeast corner of 14th and N streets. The foundations are of Bedford stone, the walls of gray pressed brick, with terra cotta trimmings, and the roof of red tile. In the basement are two club rooms, storage and packing rooms, staff room, bicycle room, stack space, lavatories, etc. The main floor is so arranged as to be under complete supervision from the delivery desk. The delivery room is octagonal, and opening from it are the children's room and reading room to the left, the reference room and open shelf room to the right. In the rear, to the right of the stack room, are the catalog cases, the cataloging room and the librarian's room. Floors are of oak and Italian tile, wainscoting and mop boards of marble, and furniture in heavy oak. The actual removal to the new building was accomplished in one day, although a day or two following was given to settling down. The library contains about 16,000 v., most of which have been collected since the destructive fire of September, 1899. The new building has a shelf capacity of 33,000 v.

New York City. University Club L. (Rpt. — year ending Feb. 28, 1902.) Added 698 (359 purchased at a cost of \$979.16); total 18,820. The new catalog is nearing completion. There have been reclassified and cataloged 6771 v., for which 9940 cards have been written. Among the notable accessions of the year was a set of the Walters Collection examples of "Oriental ceramic art."

Newark (N. J.) F. P. L. The library has established a duplicate collection of popular books, from which volumes are issued at a charge of one cent per day. It includes 170 volumes, and the books are in constant demand. All books in this collection have been also bought for the general collection.

The library has sent out to librarians, editors and college instructors throughout the state the following circular:

"In connection with our work with the schools we have been looking for literary material having to do with New Jersey—sketches of prominent men, stories of dramatic incidents, descriptions of interesting historical spots, etc., in prose or poetry. Thus far we have found very little indeed. Has none of New Jersey's history got into the field of belles lettres? Can you refer us to

stories, poems, biographical sketches, etc., in this field, especially such as are brief and told in a way which makes them interesting to young people? We do not wish a bibliography of New Jersey writings. We wish a list of things written about New Jersey which can properly be classed as 'literature.' Do you know of any?"

It may be of interest, in view of Gardner M. Jones' record of the librarians' conference of 1853 in May L. J., to note that the Newark library possesses W. F. Poole's copy of Norton's *Literary Register* for 1853. It is a presentation copy from Charles B. Norton, and contains the second series of articles on "American libraries," and the "List of libraries in the United States," based upon Jewett's report, published by the Smithsonian Institution.

Newton (Mass.) F. L. (Rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, 1901.) Added 2983; total 61,423. Issued, home use 160,935 (fict. 56.02%). New registration 1085; total registration 13,761. Receipts \$13,207.74; expenses \$13,175.80.

"The figures show a decrease in home circulation, in common with neighboring libraries, but we think that never has the reference library been used more." The Expansive Classification has been adopted for the reclassification of the library. The large and increasing collection of photographs is constantly in use, and considerable additions have been made to the collection of stereoscopic views.

Norristown (Pa.) Carnegie L. The decision of Judge Edwards in the suit brought by taxpayers of the borough of Norristown to restrain the borough school board from carrying out its acceptance of Mr. Carnegie's offer of \$50,000 for a library building, is outlined in the *Legal Intelligencer* of July 11. The injunction was asked on the ground that Mr. Carnegie's offer was worded as if made to a municipality and not to a school district, a point that the judge regards as "utterly untenable and a trivial technicality"; and that the levy of \$5000 guaranteed will increase the debt of the school district beyond the constitutional limit of two per cent., a contention upon which decision is also adverse. The ruling throughout supports the action of the school board and upholds the constitutionality of the act of June 28, 1895, "for the establishment of free public libraries in the several school districts of the Commonwealth, except in cities of the first and second class."

Orange (N. J.) F. L. The library is in serious straits financially, and, except for the action of the trustees, who on June 9 guaranteed funds to pay the salaries of the librarian and assistants during the summer months it would have been necessary to close the building. The closing of the library for an indefinite period was seriously considered at

the meeting. In the autumn an earnest effort will be made to secure endowment or to devise some means of stable support.

It is less than a year since the new library, built by Joseph W. Stickler, of Orange, at a cost of \$110,000, as a memorial to his son, was formally opened. It is one of the handsomest buildings in the Oranges, the property on which it stands has been owned by the library for many years, and nothing remains but to provide for its maintenance. The library contains about 17,000 volumes, and there is also the Daniel Addison Heald library of 1135 volumes, the William Pierson medical library, the collection of the New England Society and other smaller collections in the building. The running expenses are about \$5000 a year.

Pekin (Ill.) Carnegie L. The cornerstone of the new library building was laid with Masonic exercises on the afternoon of Aug. 19.

Philadelphia, Academy of Natural Sciences L. (Rpt., 1901.) The additions for the year were 6184, an unprecedented growth, so far as current accessions are concerned. 1472 v. were bound, "making a noticeable improvement in the library, especially in the department of periodicals. Only those who have been compelled to consult unbound sets of journals, the numbers unavoidably mixed and the indexes probably misplaced, can appreciate the comfort of working with volumes bound to date. Large appropriations for the work are still required, nearly 3000 volumes in the department of periodicals alone still requiring binding, but it is a cause of sincere congratulation that they will now be handled as rapidly as the necessary collation will permit." The total number of volumes in the library is given as 51,249.

The report gives an interesting review of the history of the library during its 90 years of existence, noting particularly its growth through gift and purchase. The first catalog was published at irregular intervals in the first four volumes of the *Journal* from 1817 to 1824, and manuscript hand list catalogs remained in use until 1885, when they were replaced by a card catalog. The present arrangement of the books "is practically what the present librarian inherited from his predecessors in 1862. It is far from meeting the requirements of modern library classification, but in practice it has been found to be not far short of what is wanted by the worker."

Philadelphia City Institute L. (50th rpt. — year ending March, 1902.) Added 1055; total 26,247. Issued, home use 48,324. No. visitors 86,280, a daily average of 307. Receipts \$7662.19; expenses \$4360.92.

Pomona (Cal.) P. L. Designs submitted by Burnham & Bliesner, of Los Angeles, architects of the Riverside Public Library, have been accepted for the new Carnegie building.

They call for a building 61 x 78, in the Romanesque style. The entrance will be on the west side in the center through a triple archway reached by broad steps and lighted by two handsome groups of lamps. Flanking the entrance are groups of three arched windows lighting the reference room on the left and the reading room on the right.

The administration of the library will be from a central octagonal room, lighted from overhead, in which the delivery desk will be situated. This room is entered from a vestibule, on the left of which is the office and on the right the general reading room in the southwest corner. In the northwest corner is the reference room, connecting with the stack room directly back and having a capacity of 20,000 volumes on one floor. Back of the delivery room is the workroom, with a directors' room above. In the southeast corner is located the children's room, from which opens a ladies' parlor. In the basement are a number of unfinished rooms for future use.

Port Jervis (N. Y.) F. L. The cornerstone of the new library building was laid on Sept. 1, with elaborate exercises.

Redding (Cal.) P. L. Work has been begun on a new library building, to be of sandstone and in the old Spanish mission style of architecture. It will contain also a mining bureau and museum, with exhibits of ores and samples from the mines of Shasta county. It will cost about \$10,000, and it is hoped that it may be completed by Jan. 1.

St. Louis (Mo.) Mercantile L. A. (56th rpt., 1901.) Added 5818; total 125,282, of which 2149 are duplicate or deposited collections. Spent for books \$7271.66. Issued, home use 111,115 (fict. incl. juv. 67.61 %), an increase of 8000 over the previous year. Attendance of members and visitors 180,090. Membership 3423, a net loss for the year of 50 members.

An extremely interesting report, in its clear and sensible review of the history of subscription libraries in general and the St. Louis Mercantile in particular, as affected by the development of free public libraries and the growing specialization in all branches of educational activity. The library was founded in 1846. At this time "there was no free library in the United States. Such public libraries as existed were maintained in part by membership fees and in part by private beneficence. The plan of these libraries was co-operative. It was thought that by putting into a common purse such money as would otherwise be spent by individuals for private collections, and by stimulating a taste for reading, through literary associations, debates, and a lyceum lecture system, the members of such a society would be mutually benefited, and in time the library would become valuable for purposes of research.

"Even in the palmy days of subscription libraries — before a free library was thought of

—there never was a time when any of them prospered on membership fees alone. Nothing of this sort can succeed financially, unless it be a mere circulating book shop, with no higher aim than to gratify the fad of the hour, regardless of the consequences upon public taste. And even so, there is no American city in which such an institution as Mudie's or Smith's of London has ever really succeeded. The American subscription libraries aimed at something higher than merely to gratify a taste for novel-reading. Every one of them was an educational force. Every one of them bought books that would be read by only a few of its members; and it bought expensive books of reference that could not circulate. More than this: it employed men or women competent to give advice to the members in their choice of books, and to show them how to use the best books to the best advantage. All this was beyond the field of circulating book shops. It cost money that membership-fees did not repay; and this money had to be raised by private subscription, lectures, fairs, and other expedients. But it was precisely because the mercantile libraries did strive to educate rather than amuse the public that they drew any aid from private beneficence.

"Subscription libraries in the United States continued to prosper until the free public library movement was well under way. Then their fortunes, one and all, experienced a sea-change. Competition between fee-charging libraries and free libraries was out of the question. Even had the resources of subscription libraries been equal to those of the free libraries, it is self-evident that the former must have lost heavily in membership. But the rivals were far from meeting on even terms as to endowment and income. Where the subscription library had thousands, the free library had hundreds of thousands."

Under the new conditions, two things were necessary to the success of a subscription library—good business management, and specialization. "In former years our institution was a library, an atheneum, a lecture-bureau, a museum of natural history and antiquities, a conservatory of music, and a museum of fine arts, all in one. It had no competitor along either of these lines; consequently every one in St. Louis who cared five dollars' worth for either of these interests was virtually obliged to join the Mercantile Library."

"Then, gradually, other institutes arose: an academy of fine arts, an academy of sciences, a university, various musical clubs, theatres, etc. Each of these, by specializing, outgrew us along its particular line. Many of our members left us because they could best pursue their studies, or find recreation, within other walls. We no longer drew from the whole population of the city. We abandoned the idea of collecting works of art, giving public entertainments, keeping up a chess-room, and so forth, and we concentrated our

energies upon the one object of building up a first-class library. We specialized; and our membership was specialized at the same time.

"Finally, to the honor of our city, a free public library was established, supported by library appropriations from the public purse and by munificent private gift. Its resources are vastly greater than ours. Again we must specialize; again concentrate our energies upon a narrower but higher object. Again is restricted the class of citizens from which we can draw members."

"It is precisely as though our institution had once been a common school—the only school in St. Louis—primary, high, collegiate, professional, all in one. Then other schools arose, graded and specialized according to the needs of a growing community. And our school grew with the city, specialized with the city, drew ever from a less and less proportion of the mass, but ever from a better selected class of the people, and finally became a university. Would you expect that university to have as many pupils as all the other schools put together? Would the measure of its usefulness be determined by the mere number of those within its walls?"

San Bernardino (Cal.) P. L. (Rpt.—year ending June 30, 1902.) Added 344; total 5485. Issued, home use 25,516 (fict. 16,067; juv. fiction. 5923). Membership 2387. Attendance 12,249 (Sundays 448). Receipts \$2244.21; expenses \$1569.52.

Sedalia (Mo.) F. P. L. (7th rpt.—year ending April 30, 1902.) Added 1063; total 4357. Issued, home use 35,749 (fict. 24,143; juv. 8056). a decrease of 4123, entirely in fiction. At the same time there has been an increase of 2501 in juvenile books and of 270 in non-fiction. Cards in use 1841. The number of new readers is about 12 per cent. of the total population of Sedalia. Receipts \$7729.30; expenses \$6683.67.

The library was opened in its new Carnegie building on Aug. 1, and this was naturally followed by a large increase in membership and in public interest. Since September, 1901, the library has been open on Sunday afternoons, from 2 to 6 o'clock, and the attendance has ranged from 25 to 100. A printed finding list is in preparation.

Springfield (Mass.) City L. Assoc. (41st rpt.—year ending May 6, 1902.) Added 7016; total 128,178. Issued, home use 203,845; through schools and volunteer branches 43,368; fiction 61.6 per cent., including juvenile. Books for children form about a third of the total circulation. Cards issued in new registration, begun Feb. 1, 1901, 10,635, of which 2171 are held by children.

As the report covers the period before the appointment of Mr. H. C. Wellman as successor to Mr. Dana, it was compiled by Miss Alice Shepard, first assistant. She says:

"The library has tried to keep itself on the material side cheerful and inviting, on the side of its staff informed and hospitable. As to its administration, it has ventured on such experiments as home delivery, duplicate collection, vacation reading of children, evaluation of novels by outside readers, the exhibition of appropriate collections, the gathering and distribution of pictures, the extension of the hours of opening and the relaxing of the rules of administration as the public come in contact with them, not thinking that all these new lines of work or new methods would of necessity be permanently successful, but believing that only by testing these things and others, and by the constant taking of the public into its confidence, can work into the full possibilities of its usefulness."

The home delivery plan, after a year's operation, has not proved wholly successful, but has been useful in increasing the number of cardholders. There has been a decided increase in the use of books by teachers and pupils in connection with their school work.

The classification of books appears to be carried out in a rather unusual way. "The best of all new books added from year to year and a selection of the more useful of those in the older parts of the library" are classified by the Cutter Expansive system and stand together on the shelves. At the same time "the books not likely to be used, but still of sufficient value to be added to the shelves, are frequently entered in the old system." The ultimate idea is that when, in the course of time, the library has a new building a stack or storage room will be reserved for the older and less used books, "while on open shelves in the library proper will be kept the live, working library, carefully and closely classified in accordance with the Cutter system." This may be attractive in theory, but it is likely to be less satisfactory in practice. The report, as usual, is interesting and well arranged.

Trinity College L. Hartford Ct. (Rpt.—year ending May 31, 1902.) Added 2482 v., 1095 pm., of which 483 v. were purchased; total 45,130 v., 28,185 pm. Attendance 3826, of which 685 was evening attendance.

Mr. Carlton's interesting report is mainly devoted to a review of the accessions of the year. The most notable addition was the gift in November, 1901, from Sydney G. Fisher, of 1044 volumes, dealing with English and American literature, European history and literature and economics. From George E. Hoadley were received nearly 300 v., including a fine set of the "Jesuit Relations," and the nucleus for an important collection of early American newspapers. Many of the books given by Mr. Fisher were used to build up a "standard library," freely accessible, and modelled upon the plan adopted in Providence. This "standard" collection is placed in the center of the reference room, and is made

up of "the best editions that the library possesses of the chief names in the literatures of Greece, Rome, England, France, Germany, Italy and the Scandinavian countries. On its practical side the collection thus becomes a departmental library for the work of the classical modern language, and English departments, and as such has been of constant use ever since it was arranged. On the other side it places prominently before the eyes of the student an attractive, tempting array of the world's best literature. His glance cannot stray in any direction without alighting upon some name forever famous, or upon some book that has helped to mould human thought or to stimulate noble action. If the student does no more than remember the names upon the backs of these books it will be a distinct addition to his intellectual equipment. Many of the undergraduates have gone much further, and this portion of the library has already become a favorite spot for those who have the time or inclination for general reading."

It is suggested that the library should undertake the publication of a series of bibliographical monographs, and for a first essay of the sort a "Bibliography of Trinity College" is recommended. Mr. Carlton states that he already has in manuscripts over 700 titles of books, pamphlets, essays, sermons, and magazine articles for such a record.

The Library of Congress printed cards have been adopted for the catalog, with excellent results. A strong plea is made for the employment of at least two student assistants, to aid in the clerical work of the library. The need of an endowment fund and a new building is also touched upon; "an income of \$10,000 and a building planned to hold 200,000 volumes will be a minimum requirement almost before we know it."

Announcement was made during the commencement exercises that the sum of \$2500 had been presented to the library by the alumni, to be known as the Samuel Hart Library Fund. Among the recipients of degrees at commencement was William Newnham Carlton, the librarian who received the honorary degree of master of arts, *honoris causa*.

University of Texas L. (Rpt.—year ending April 19, 1902.) Added, 2161; total 36,136. The services of a trained cataloger have made it possible to accomplish much needed work. In addition to instruction given to the library training class 5352 v. have been cataloged, shelf-listed, and arranged. The greatest need at present is a proper catalog.

The freedom of access to books, which has been the rule, has resulted in the disappearance of numerous volumes; "in view of this evil, it seems desirable that access to the books be restricted to those who really need to see the books in the shelves, and supply all ordinary calls by having students apply at

the loan desk." The appointment of three student assistants is urged.

Mr. Wyche, the librarian, gives in the *University Record* an account of the library. It has been made one of the depositories of the printed catalog cards of the Library of Congress. He says: "Just how to make the books do the greatest service now is one of our problems. The catalog adds much along this line. Our next need is in the way of reference work with the students, very few of whom understand the use of the catalog and the various reference books. A few explanatory talks on these subjects have been given to groups of students for several years. But this reaches only a small number, and not being intelligently followed up by those who attend, is soon easily forgotten. An increase in the staff is urgently needed, so that time will be left to meet the students personally when they come in to look up topics and assist them to find what they want. At present it is often only possible to point out the case in which books on a given subject are shelved and let the student find what he can."

Washington University L., St. Louis, Mo. The cornerstone of the Washington University Library building, which is to be used during the Louisiana Purchase Exposition as a meeting place for the various congresses, was laid on the afternoon of Saturday, Aug. 30. The cornerstone was laid by Frederick M. Crunden, librarian of the Public Library, who delivered the address of the occasion. The building in its longest dimensions is 258 x 144 feet. It is to cost \$250,000. The materials used in it are the same as those used in the buildings already constructed; that is, hammer-faced red Missouri granite laid in "broken-range rubble," with ornamental courses of Bedford stone. The style of architecture is of a later period of the Tudor-Gothic than is employed in the other buildings. In the library building there is an admixture of the Renaissance. Its most noteworthy feature will be an arcaded cloistered walk on the eastern façade, running the entire length of the building (258 feet).

Westminster, Mass. Forbush Memorial L. The new library building was dedicated on Aug. 22.

Wilmington (Del.) Institute F. L. (45th rpt.—year ending Feb. 1, 1902.) Added 7078; total 46,028. Issued, home use 203,890 (fict. incl. juv. 68.2%), of which 37.2% was issued from the children's room. "On analyzing the circulation of the two departments of adult and juvenile literature, it was found that fiction formed 78.8 per cent. of the former class and 67.67 per cent. of the latter." No account is kept of reference use. New registration 3599; cards in use 17,971. Receipts \$18,090.17, expenses \$17,901.10.

A compact and interesting report. Special

attention is given to the work of the children's room, and the circulation of books through the schools, where much has been done to make library privileges attractive and useful to the young people. At the Rockford branch a children's corner was installed, and the hours of opening were extended, with good results. A serious incident was the discovery in June last that mutilation and theft of library volumes had been going on for some time. The record of the case, with the connection of the offender, was given fully in these columns at the time. "A beginning has been made at replacement, but the task is a formidable one and requires much time and more money than can be spared from present book appropriations."

Woodstock, Vt. A free reading room for men and boys was opened in August. It is centrally located, in a room formerly occupied by the local savings bank, and is open from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. The general management is in the hands of a committee of two or three citizens.

York (Pa.) P. L. (Rpt., 1901-1902.) Added 529; total 5820. Issued, home use 9776. Cards in use 1855.

The library was closed, owing to a local epidemic of smallpox, from Feb. 24 to May 1, 1902.

FOREIGN.

Battersea (London, Eng.) P. Ls. (15th rpt.—year ending March 31, 1902.) Added 2255, of which 209 were gifts; total 50,776, of which 13,503 are in the ref. dept. Issued 405,971, of which 24,964 were drawn from the ref. dept.

The children's reading room at the central library was opened on Oct. 7, 1901, and has proved most successful.

Bergen (Norway) P. L. (Rpt.) The progressive spirit and the clear, vigorous style of Fröken Valborg Platou add greatly to the interest with which one reads her report. A marked increase of borrowers, a large circulation, a large attendance in the reading rooms, together with the ambitions which the city has for a new library building, point toward a successful year.

The circulation has reached over 100,000 volumes, the home use being over 80,000, and the reading room use over 20,000. The use of the reading room was as great as the space permitted, and under other conditions would undoubtedly have been doubled several times. There is no sign of children's work, and in the report on the reading room it is stated that "during the winter season a large proportion of the juveniles were denied entrance."

Statistics of borrowers indicate a large proportion of the lower middle classes as using the library. The percentage of fiction is given as 79. Among the 25 most popular authors

were 9 Norwegian writers, 6 English and American, 5 Danish, 2 German, 2 French and 1 Swedish. A supplementary catalog of the accessions since 1897 is reported to have been at that time at the printer's, and a subject catalog is in preparation, but with the present staff cannot be completed in the near future.

The library is located on one of the popular thoroughfares, in a building over the meat market. The shelves are greatly overcrowded, which makes the need of a library building pressing. A volunteer committee has formed and collected over 60,000 kroner for this purpose. The committee also urges action by the municipality, "in the trust that the 28 previous years offer sufficient guarantee that a practical and careful administration in the future as well will claim a place for the library among the city's charitable and educational institutions."

K. H. J.

Bodleian L., Oxford. At the Bodleian tercentenary in October the United States will be represented by James L. Whitney, librarian of the Boston Public Library, and delegates from Harvard, Cornell, University of Michigan, Yale, Columbia, and Princeton will also attend. Canada will have two delegates, the Australasian universities four, and India nine. The Bibliothèque Nationale, Laurentian Library, Biblioteca Estense, National Library of Naples, Royal Library of Berlin, and many other libraries will be represented.

Fulham (Eng.) P. Ls. (14th rpt.) "We have ordered the suppression of betting tips and prices in the papers provided for public use. As a result, order and quietness are more easily maintained in the mornings and, unexpectedly enough, the attendance has at the same time increased."

Kyoto (Japan) Imperial University. The library of the university is described in the official "Calendar" for 1901-1902. It comprises four apartments—reading-room, smoking-room, office, and book-stack. The reading-room accommodates 160 persons, and has also a card catalog. A separate stack building is needed, and will be erected at no distant date. The regulations governing use of books are extensive, covering both home and reading-room use. Professors and other members of the university staff may borrow from 5 to 30 volumes at a time, according to their grade. The number of volumes being estimated by the standard of books bound in European style, three volumes bound in Japanese style, and one sheet of maps, pictures, and the like in the form of a chart, or one case of the same in the form of a case, are counted as equal to one volume in European style.

Liverpool (Eng.) P. Ls., Museums and Art Gallery. (49th rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, 1901.) The total issues of bound volumes for the year were 1,630,292, of which 1,060,-

472 were drawn from the lending libraries. The issue of periodicals, magazines, etc., reached a total of 712,321, and there were 652,465 newspaper readers.

The experiment of placing a generous selection of reference works and new books for free access in the Picton reading room "has given great satisfaction to readers and no less satisfaction to the management, inasmuch as no losses as yet have been sustained of these particular books." There is a growing use of the reference library.

From the lending libraries there was a circulation of 889,511 v. for home reading, of which nearly half were fiction and 20,000 books for the young. 21,659 v. of music were issued, an increase of over 2000. There were 116 free lectures given under the auspices of the library, which were attended by 54,068 persons. "The provision of books for blind readers was inaugurated in connection with these libraries so long ago as 1859. Since that date considerable additions have been made, both by gift and purchase, to the collection, which is now probably the largest in any public library in the country."

Montreal, Can. Now that the offer of Mr. Carnegie to give \$150,000 for a public library has been accepted, the method of making it effective still comes up at intervals for discussion in the city council. The great difficulty is the apparent impossibility of harmonizing English Protestant and French Catholic ideas as to the character and selection of books. A by-law was recently drafted and passed by the finance committee of the city council which provides that the library shall be known as "The Free Public Library of Montreal," shall receive an annual appropriation of \$15,000, and shall be controlled by the finance committee, under the direction of a librarian. It also provides that "in order to give a moral and orthodox character to the library, three censors, who shall be laymen, shall be appointed every two years in the month of June, one of whom shall be named by the council, one by the principal of McGill University, and one by the vice-rector of Laval University. And in the event of the two latter refusing or neglecting to make such appointment, during said month of June, the appointments shall be made by the council." The by-laws were shelved when submitted to the city council.

The point of view of the opponents to the library is set forth in a recent issue of *La Verité*, which says:

"We are threatened with a Carnegie library. We all know that Mr. Carnegie, an immensely rich Scottish-American, has a mania for founding libraries. He has founded a large number in the United States; and now he is beginning operations in Canada, unfortunately with success. Indeed, the city council of Montreal has, by a large majority, just accepted an offer of \$150,000 made by Mr.

Carnegie, on condition that the city shall add to that sum an annual subsidy of \$15,000 in perpetuity, for a public library. Now a public library is an excellent thing or a very bad one, just as it is rightly or wrongly made up. A public library, opened indiscriminately to everybody, directed by incompetent, negligent, or unscrupulous persons, becomes, in a short time, and infallibly, a source of awful corruption, particularly for the young. Naturally, the public library which it is proposed to found in Montreal will be withdrawn from all religious control; for unfortunately they are unfortunately started on that pathway. We may, therefore, predict, without fear of being mistaken, that the taxpayers of Montreal will have to pay \$15,000 a year to keep in their midst a source of contagion a thousand, a hundred thousand times more dangerous than the worst epidemic of small-pox."

New South Wales P. L., Sydney. (31st rpt.—year ending Feb. 20, 1902.) Added 2487; total 151,141. Issued from lending branch 133,215 v. to 8821 borrowers; fiction forms 15.4 per cent. of the total volumes and 57.4 per cent. of the total issues. Attendance at the reference library was 199,592, an increase of 14,533 over the previous year. During the year 225 boxes, containing 10,188 v., were sent to 122 country centres; 198 v. were also lent to 22 individual students in remote country districts.

It is urgently recommended that government take action upon the selection of a site for the proposed new building, thus ensuring the bequest of the Mitchell collection. Appended is an extremely interesting outline of the requirements desired in such a building, calculated to provide for a twenty years' growth, and to allow of expansion for fifty years.

The D. C. has been adopted for the reclassification of the collection.

Newtown P. L., South Wellington, New Zealand. A series of free lectures are being given in connection with the library which are well attended and prove very popular. The series opened on May 28, with a lecture by J. W. Joynt on "The rise of the great nations of Europe," two lectures being given in June, July, August, and September, and the last one on October 1. The subjects dealt mainly with literature, natural science and history.

Westminster (London, Eng.) P. Ls. (Rpt. 1901-02.) The report covers the activities of the five public libraries administered under the direction of the Public Libraries Committee of the City of Westminster. The accessions are given as 4144; total 102,140. Issued for home use 277,970; ref. use 157,472. Estimated total attendance 2,702,000. The reports of the separate libraries follow the general summary.

Gifts and Bequests.

Canton (O.) P. L. By the will of Mrs. Katharine Barron Aultman, of Canton, the library receives a bequest of \$25,000.

Carnegie library gifts.

Dawson, Alaska. Aug. 12. \$25,000.
The following are reports for Great Britain:
Battersea, London. June. £15,000. Accepted.
Birmingham, Eng. June 17. £3000 for suburb of Selly Oak.
Brentford (Eng.) F. L. July. £5000.
Fenton, Eng. July. £5000.
Finsbury, London. July. £13,000.
Grays, Essex, Eng. July. £3000.
Hammermith, London. July. £10,000.
Kettering, Eng. June 12. £8000.
Larne, Irel. July. £2500.
Londonderry, Irel. July. £8000.
Maidenhead, Eng. June 20. £5000.
Mansfield, Eng. July. £3500.
Montrose, Scotl. June 9. £7500.
Northampton, Eng. June 23. £5500.
Paddington, London. July. £15,000.
Ravenshall, Eng. July. £6000.
Rushden, Eng. July. £2000.
Stirchley. July. £3000.
Woolwich, London. July. £14,000.
Workington, Eng. June 5. £7000.

Librarians.

FARR, Miss Mary P., has undertaken the cataloging of the recently established Public Library of Derby, Ct.

GRAY, Louis Freeman, formerly assistant librarian and executive officer of the Boston Public Library, died in Boston on August 24. Mr. Gray was born at Blue Hills, Me., in 1860. After the Civil War his family removed to Boston, where he attended the Franklin School, and later entered Harvard. After leaving Harvard he joined the staff of the Public Library, of which he was a member for several years. For some years past he had been engaged in newspaper work.

JONES, Lynds Eugene, who under the direction of Frederick Leypoldt compiled "The American catalogue" for 1876, died at his home in Brooklyn on August 3. Mr. Jones was born in Brooklyn in 1853. He was engaged in newspaper work before his connection with Mr. Leypoldt in 1875, and was later connected with the publishing trade. Since 1897 he had been senior member of the board of examiners of the New York Civil Service Commission. Mr. Jones attended the first conference of the American Library Association, held in Philadelphia in 1876, and was a member of the committee appointed to formulate the "A. L. A. rules" for cataloging. He had edited and compiled various manuals and handbooks.

LAIDLEY, Miss Caroline S., for fifty-two years librarian of the Northampton (Mass.) Public Library, died in that city on August 19 after an illness of five weeks. Probably no other woman librarian in the country has held as long a term of continuous service. Miss Laidley was the daughter of George and Marian Laidley, early Scotch settlers in the Connecticut valley, and was born in Northampton sixty-eight years ago. At the age of seventeen she became librarian of the local Young Men's Institute, with a collection of about one thousand volumes. The library was first housed in a small room in the city hall; in 1857 a second room was added; and in 1874 it was transferred to the Clarke memorial building, erected at a cost of \$75,000, partly by endowment and partly by subscription. At the present time the collection numbers about 32,000 v. Miss Laidley was a member of the Western Massachusetts Library Club. She was regarded as an authority on matters relating to local history and genealogy.

MEYER, Henry C., for thirty years a member of the staff of the Cincinnati (O.) Public Library, died in that city on August 11, after an illness of two months' duration. Mr. Meyer was born in Germany in 1844, and came to the United States early in life. He was at New Orleans when the Civil War broke out, and served in the Confederate Army. After the close of the war he came to Cincinnati, and in 1872 was appointed assistant in the Public Library, where for many years he had charge of the reference department. Mr. Meyer's wife died several years ago.

STOCKWELL, George W., New York State Library School, class of '95, for three years librarian of the Westfield (Mass.) Athenæum, has been appointed librarian of the Public Library of Parker, South Dakota. Mr. Stockwell is a member of the A. L. A. and of the Massachusetts Library Club, and was president of the Western Massachusetts Library Club during 1901-2.

TYLER, Arthur Wellington, of Plainfield, N. J., formerly of Branford, Ct., and Wilmington, Del., has been appointed assistant librarian of the Public Library, Washington, D. C., and entered upon his duties the 1st of September.

WAIT, Miss Marie F., formerly librarian of the New Jersey Historical Society, has accepted the position of librarian of the Longstreet Library, Peddie Institute, Hightstown, N. J.

WILLIAMS, Hugh, of the Catalogue Division of the Library of Congress, died at his home in Cleveland, O., on August 18. Mr. Williams was a graduate of Adelbert College, of the New York State Library School (B. L. S., class of '98), and an M. A. from Co-

lumbian University. He was appointed to the staff of the Library of Congress in June, 1898, and had been since then instructor in cataloging at Columbian University Library School, and secretary of the Library Association of Washington City. A bibliography prepared by Mr. Williams on "College libraries" was published as a bulletin of the New York State Library School; and Theodore E. Burton's recent book, "Financial crises," contained a bibliography of the subject by Mr. Williams.

Cataloging and Classification.

CATALOGUE OF THE PUBLIC DOCUMENTS OF THE 55TH CONGRESS, and of other departments of the United States, for the period from July 1, 1897, to June 30, 1899 [being the "Comprehensive index" provided for by the act approved January 12, 1895]; prepared under the supervision of the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, Gov. Print. Office. 1901 [1902]: 1069 p. l. O.

This immense volume is the fourth in the series of "Document catalogs," and is an addition of the greatest value to the equipment of indexes and guides to our public documents that is gradually being developed through the work of the Office of Documents. It records in one alphabet the documents issued during the three sessions of the 55th Congress, a plan much more convenient to the user than the usual separate record for each session, though the great bulk of the volume resulted in considerable delay in publication. The style of preceding volumes is followed, in abbreviations, entries, and general plan. The catalog was begun under the direction of Miss Mary A. Hartwell, and finished under that of Miss Alice Fichtenkam.

THE FITCHBURG (Mass.) P. L. Bulletin for September has a good classed reading list on "Municipal affairs."

GLASGOW (Scotland) P. Ls. Index catalogue of the Gorbals District Library. Glasgow, 1902. 24+455 p. sm. D. 8d; pap., 4d.

A compact, well printed dictionary catalog, containing much analytical work, and sparingly annotated. It is prefaced by a full descriptive introduction, and a table of the subject-headings used, which in the main follow the D. C.

PLAINFIELD (N. J.) P. L. Class list no. 2: history travel, and description. August, 1902. 4+78. p. O.

A well-printed D. C. list.

CHANGED TITLES.

"The Ulster guard [20th N. Y. State Militia] and the War of the Rebellion," by Theodore B. Gates, was published under the above title in 1879, and again in 1884 from the same plates, under the title "The war of the Rebellion, with a full and critical history of the first battle of Bull Run," etc., etc.

FULL NAMES.

Supplied by Catalogue Division, Library of Congress.

- Allen, Gardner Weld, 1856- (tr. of The neuroses of the genito-urinary system in the male . . . by Dr. R. Ultzmann);
 Ames, Gaston William, 1857- (Gaston Griffin; a country banker);
 Andrews, Hiram Bertrand, 1867- (Handbook for street railway engineers);
 Asch, Julius, 1838- (The Jew of the present period);
 Brant, James Daniel, 1853- (Infinitives);
 Briney, John Benton, 1839- (The form of baptism. . . .);
 Brown, Christian Henry, 1857- (The optician's manual. . . .);
 Brown, George Washington, 1820- (Reminiscences of Gov. Robert J. Walker);
 Brown, Mrs. Harriet Adelaide, 1847- (Dress-making, its science and art);
 Caffin, Charles Henry, 1854- (American masters of painting. . . .);
 Cobb, Sanford Hoadley, 1838- (The rise of religious liberty in America);
 Cox, Joseph Abram, 1858- (Practical paragraphs for patients and physicians);
 Darby, James Ezra, 1856- (An analysis of the Acts and Epistles of the New Testament);
 Dresser, Frank Farnum, 1872- (The employers' liability acts and the assumption of risks in New York, Massachusetts, etc.);
 Emery, Mabel Sarah, 1859- (Russia through the stereoscope. . . .);
 Faust, Oliver Cromwell, 1859- (The piano-forte tuner's pocket companion);
 Haaren, John Henry, 1855- (Heath's graded spelling book);
 Hazen, John Munger, 1838- (Railway contractor's handbook);
 Heath, Herbert Milton, 1853- (Laws of Maine concerning business corporations. . . .);
 Ingraham, Charles Anson, 1852- (Songs of all sorts);
 Kruger, Frank Philip, 1878- (The so-short system of phonic shorthand. . . .);
 Lange, Heinrich Carl, 1842- (Feld und wienblumen);
 Loux, Charles William, 1868- (White ribbons—temperance verse);
 Marsh, George Cook, 1861- (A singular will);
 Mets, James Andrew, 1832- (Naval heroes of Holland. . . .);
 Morse, Hiram Gardner, 1832- (Robert Louis Stevenson as I found him);
 Newell, Wilbur Charles, 1859- (The life worth living);

- Page, Ernest Clifford, 1862- (Page's Nebraska digest);
 Parsons, William Franklin, 1834- (Parsons' hand book of business and social forms);
 Roddy, Henry Justin, 1856- (Elementary geography);
 Selover, Arthur William, 1871- (The negotiable instruments laws. . . .);
 Smith, Curtis Pendleton, 1863- (Texas notarial manual and form book);
 Snyder, William Lamartine, 1848- (The notaries' and commissioners' manual. . . .);
 Trask, Robert Dana, 1852- (Human knowledge and human conduct);
 Vincent, Edgar La Verne, 1851- (Margaret Bowlby).

Bibliography.

COLONIAL GOVERNMENT. Reinsch, Paul S. Colonial government: an introduction to the study of colonial institutions. (The citizens library.) New York, Macmillan Co., 1902. 10+386 p. 12°.

The several chapters are followed by bibliographies of considerable extent and importance.

CURVED SURFACES. Gauss, Karl Friedrich. General investigations of curved surfaces of 1827 and 1825; tr. with notes and a bibliography by James Caddell Morehead and Adam Miller Hildebeitel. [Princeton.] N. J., Princeton University Library, 1902. c. 6+126 p. Q. \$1.75 net.

The 10-p. bibliography is limited to books, memoirs, etc., which use Gauss's method, or deal with the general theory of surfaces.

ELM LEAF BEETLE. Felt, Ephraim P. Elm leaf beetle in New York state. New York State Museum, bulletin 57. Entomology 15. 2d ed. 44 p. pl. il. O. 15 c.

The bibliography covers 7 pages (p. 30-37).

FRANCE. Molinier, Aug. Les sources de l'histoire de France. I: Epoque primitive, Mérovingiens et Carolingiens. Paris, Picard et fils, 1902. 8+288 p. 8°. 5 fr.

MISSISSIPPI. Mississippi Historical Society. Publications, vol. 5; edited by Franklin L. Riley. Oxford, Miss., for the Society, 1902. 394 p. 8°.

This volume contains the report of the Mississippi Historical commission, created by legislative act of March 2, 1900. Among the divisions of the commission's report are "Manuscripts, papers, and documents pertaining to Mississippi in public depositories beyond the state," "Manuscripts, papers, and

documents in public depositories within the state," "Manuscripts, papers, and documents in private hands," "Aboriginal and Indian history," "Points and places of historic interest in Mississippi." To the first division, "Public depositories beyond the state," Prof. James M. White contributes the section on Libraries and societies (pp. 75-117), and to the second division Prof. James M. White and Franklin L. Riley, Ph.D., contribute a similar section (pp. 169-227). These reports from libraries and societies are very unequal in their merit, as is to be expected where so much depends on the co-operation of so many institutions. In some instances there is only a brief paragraph, while in others there are pages of titles of works contained in the several libraries on Mississippi.

QUAKERS. Myers, Albert Cook. Immigration of the Irish Quakers into Pennsylvania, 1682-1750, with their early history in Ireland. Swarthmore, Pa., The author, 1902. 22+477 p. 8°.

The annotated bibliography of 11 pages contains a few annotations. The printed sources take up 7 pages; the manuscript sources 4 pages.

RENAISSANCE. Einstein, Lewis. The Italian Renaissance in England: studies. (Columbia University studies in comparative literature.) New York, The Columbia University Press, 1902. 17+420 p. 12°.

Pages 391-409 are bibliographical.

SAMMLUNG BIBLIOTHEKSWISSENSCHAFTLICHER ARBEITEN; herausgegeben von Karl Dziatzko. 15 heft, Beiträge zur Kenntniss des Schrift.-Buch-und Bibliothekswesens. vii. Leipzig, M. Spirgatis, 1902. [4], 113 p. 6 m.

Besides Konrad Haebler's contribution on Spanish bibliography, noted elsewhere, the volume contains a list by Max Spirgatis of English book titles in Drandrius' "Bibliotheca exotica. Francof. 1625." This work is a list of French, Italian, Spanish, English, Dutch, and Hungarian books offered for sale at the Frankfurt book mart. The English list covers the years 1561-1620, and is reprinted by Spirgatis with reference to Bullen's "Catalogue of [English] books in the Library of the British Museum . . . to the year 1640." and Arber's "Transcript of the registers of the Company of Stationers of London, 1553-1640." There is also the first instalment of a bibliography of printed university registers, by W. Falckenheimer, comprising the German registers, and the editor's critical examination of some points in Schwencke's "Untersuchungen zur Geschichte des ersten Buchdrucks."

A. S. J.

SCOTCH-IRISH. Hanna, C. A. Scotch-Irish; or, the Scot in north Britain, north Ireland and North America. New York, Putnam, 1902. 2 v., 8°, net, \$10.

Contains a bibliography, v. 2, p. 531-551.

TEUTONS. La Saussaye, P. D. Chantepie de. The religion of the Teutons; from the Dutch by Bert J. Vos. (Handbooks on the history of religions.) Boston, Ginn & Co., 1902. 7+504 p. 8°.

Pages 417-463 are bibliographical. The bibliography is classified and extensively annotated.

Anonymous and Pseudonyms.

The following are supplied by Catalogue Division, Library of Congress:

Ambiguist, An, pseud. of John Luther Kraber, "Ambiguities."

Argyle, Harvey, pseud. of McIntire, John Jackson. "As I saw it . . . stories illustrated."

Aston, MacKay Bernard (1867-), author of "Correlation of history, geography and literature."

Deveron, Hugh, pseud. of Huger, Arthur Middleton, 1842- "Songs of the Sah-kohnagas."

Gallus, Arthur, pseud. of Wisner, Arthur, 1847- "Emma Calvé; her artistic life by A. Gallus. . ."

Monroe, Forest, pseud. of Wiechmann, Ferdinand Gerhard, 1858- "Maid of Montauk."

Trevert, Edward, pseud. of Bubier, Edward Trevert, 1858- "How to build dynamo electric machinery."

Wayland, Eugene Clarence, is the author of "The American transition."

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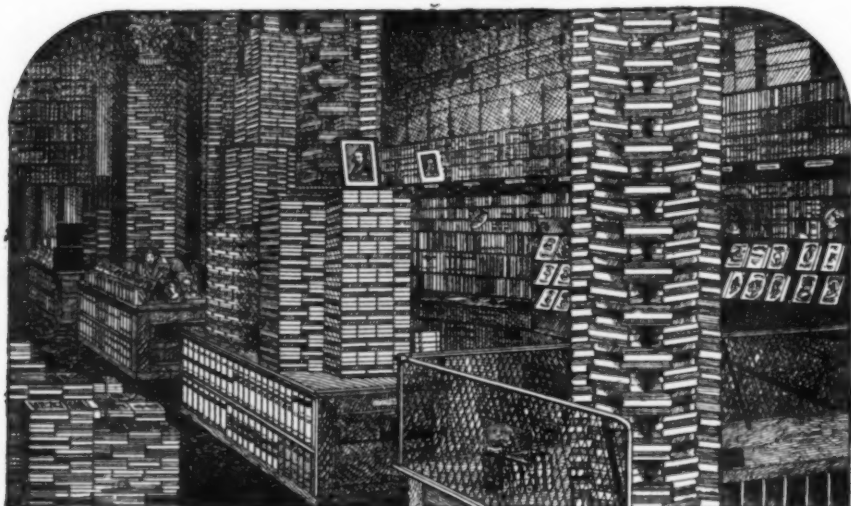
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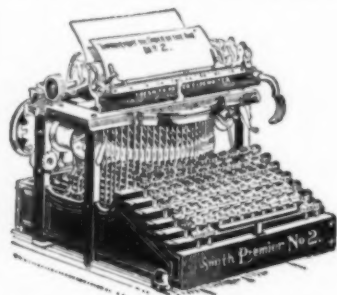
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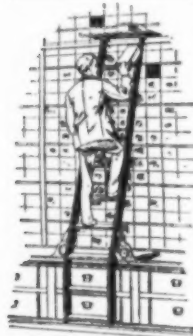
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